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from the earliest period

to the year 1

THE ANNALS OF DOYLE.

which are adopted as the running

text throughout.

BY JOHN D'ALTON ESQ. M.R.I.A.

BARRISTER AT LAW, &c.



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FROM THE EARLIEST PERIOD TO THE YEAR 1245,

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WITH

A BRIEF ESSAY ON THE NATIVE ANNALISTS, AND OTHER SOURCES FOR ILLUSTRATING IRELAND,

AND

FULL STATISTICAL AND HISTORICAL NOTICES

OF THE

BARONY OF BOYLE.

BY

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Weir, R. T., Esq., Dromore.
Weir, William, Esq., Lakeview.
White, R., Esq., Arigna.
Whiteside, James, Esq., Q.C., Mountjoy-square.
Winter, John Pratt, Esq., D. L., Agher.
Wood, William C., Esq., Woodville, Sligo.

Young, G. W., Esq., Coroner, Knockbawn, Tynan.
Young, Rev. Walter, Lisbellan, Enniskillen.

While many of the above Subscribers have also honoured some of Mr. D'Alton's other Works with their encouragement, those, before whom in this List a star * is prefixed, yet more confidingly communicated their names at once for any Work he might ever publish.

JOHN D'ALTON.

12*th April*, 1845.

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BRIEF ESSAY

ON

THE NATIVE ANNALS,

AND OTHER SOURCES FOR ILLUSTRATING THE

HISTORY AND TOPOGRAPHY OF IRELAND.

According to bardic accounts, one of the early pagan kings of this country ordained, that a triennial assembly of its subordinate rulers and chiefs, in the nature of a Parliament, should be held at Tara (in the present County of Meath), the seat of sovereignty and legislation, where, amongst other matters, considered of the highest national interest, a committee was specially appointed, and from time to time renewed, whose sole business it was, to refresh the existing traditions of early colonizations, collect the narratives of passing events, and perpetuate the knowledge of all, by frequently renewed intercourse and communication. Chronicles and genealogies thus collected and verified, were, thereupon, woven in the legends of the "Seanachie," or yet more enduringly and popularly transmitted in the song and the music of the bard. When the light of the Gospel broke in upon the country, these memorials of revered adoption were not suffered to remain in the shade, and, while the continuance of such legislative conventions, as above mentioned, was provided for, a similar committee was constructed, at

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the instance of St. Patrick, as alleged in the Annals of the Four Masters, but with the additional, and, by reason of the great religious revolution that had taken place, the necessary duty of purifying and re-modelling what was so largely alloyed with Pagan rites and manners. This council of censorship consisted of three of the petty kings, three of the most respected "Seanachies" or chroniclers, St. Patrick, the most influential of the commission, and two other bishops of his ordination. The Annals of Ulster, whose authority is hereafter examined, suggest (*ad ann.* 438), that from this body originated the Psalter of Tara; the Four Masters, however, attribute it to Cormac, King of Ireland in the third century. Be this as it may, the provinces, imitating this literary auspice, deputed persons of their election to aid the great national design, and accordingly were the Books of Leinster and Munster, the Annals of Ulster and Connaught, continued through centuries of time. With not less creditable zeal, the monks adopted in their churches the example of the State, and each of the religious fraternities appointed their historian and scribe, fragments of whose works yet exist, in which the retrospective notices are avowedly derived, from such more ancient compilations as are above alluded to.

In the time of Cormac Mac Cuilenan, King and Bishop of Cashel, at the close of the tenth century, was drawn up by himself, in the native language, that collection of Irish notices, hence commonly called the "Psalter of Cashel," a copy of part of which Dr. Nicholson mentions, as extant in an old parchment manuscript of the Bodleian Collection at Oxford; and Sir James Ware says that he had in his custody some genealogical fragments taken out of the said history, in a volume copied, as it appeared to him from the antiquity of the character, about three centuries before he published his "Writers." The original, or some copy of this Psalter, ap-

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pears to have been extant in Limerick in 1712; at least a volume purporting to have been there transcribed from it in that year, has been, and, it is believed, still is in the Diocesan Library of Cashel.—The Book of Conquests was the next chronicle of note; an imperfect copy of which is in the Collection at Stowe: a parchment quarto of 84 pages, doubly columned. Dr. O'Conor, in his Catalogue of that Collection, gives an interesting account of its contents; and the high antiquity of the work is evidenced by its being quoted in Tigernach's Chronicle, as well as in the "*Din-Seanchus*," another production generally referred to the eleventh century; nor is it improbable that it, with that of Tigernach, were the authorities from which Giraldus derived those traditions of the early colonization of Ireland, which he has but abridged in his "*Topographia Hiberniæ*."—Those Annals of Tigernach succeed to notice. He was, as before-mentioned, Abbot of Clonmacnois, and is projected to especial reverence, not only as the most ancient annalist in any northern language, but as also so distinguished by the diligence of his researches and the ingenuousness of his narrative. He commences his work at the year 305 before the Christian era, and concludes at A. D. 1088, when himself died. The antiquity of his notices is best proved by the internal evidence of their own simplicity; they are a naked, honest, unadorned statement of facts, communicated with veracious dryness, and only varied by notices of the changes of the weather, the appearances of the heavens, the visitation of epidemical complaints, and the courses of the crops. The first sentence with which, in honest candour, he commences, "Omnia monumenta Scotorum antea Cimbaoth sunt incerta," has been misconstrued into an admission, that the Irish, then called Scoti, had no ancient monuments of literature; but, while this Cimbaoth lived about the time of Alexander the Great, Tigernach's proposition should be construed rather as

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resolving itself into two parts, the one a fact, namely, that the Irish had such historic records or monuments before the time of Cimbaoth, and the other matter of individual opinion, that they were of uncertain credit. Imperfect copies of these Annals are preserved in the Bodleian Library, and in that of Trinity College, Dublin.

Emanating, as this work did, from the principal of a great monastery, such a source was not novel in ecclesiastical history; Ireland, as before suggested, had even earlier, in its greater establishments, chronicles regularly kept by an officer appointed for that purpose, and those compilations wholly independent of their individual chartularies; but, as might be expected, their mass of information has perished in the havoc of unsettled times. Some of those that succeeded Tigernach have, however, more fortunately, although sadly mutilated, survived to assert their former existence; and of these may be placed first in chronological order those Annals of Boyle, which are adopted as the running-text authority in the writer's "History of Ireland," and which shall be spoken of more particularly hereafter.—Next succeed the Annals of Inisfallen, which, with some few notices of Ireland before the birth of Christ, may be described as extending from A. D. 254, down to the year 1320. The original, a vellum manuscript of 57 leaves, is in the Bodleian Library, and from its inspection would seem to have been compiled about the year 1215, and thence continued, in different handwritings, by the successive scribes of that religious house. The three chronicles last mentioned, viz., those of Tigernach and Boyle, and portions of those of Inisfallen, have been printed, but it can scarcely be said published, in the late Dr. O'Conor's "*Rerum Hibernicarum Scriptores*."—The Annals of Lough Ke succeed, and may be considered as a continuation of those of Boyle, and as connecting the events of the thirteenth and fourteenth cen-

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turies, extending as they do from 1249 to 1356, and, like them, written partly in Latin and partly in Irish.—The next compilation in the native tongue was that venerable repertory of Irish literature—the Book of Ballymote, now preserved in the Collection of the Royal Irish Academy, a large folio volume, finely written, in double columns, on vellum of the largest size, and originally containing 550 pages; but the two first have perished. It was drawn up at different times and places, and by various hands, and although much blended with fable, contains a vast quantity of curious matter, derived from long pre-existing tracts now lost.—The Book of Lecan, compiled at the close of the fourteenth century, is likewise an extensive collection of pre-existing narratives regarding the Irish, from the earliest period: the genealogies of their saints and chieftains, transcripts of the provincial chronicles, the laws, customs, and tributes of the nation, that curious piece of topography entitled the "*Din-Seanchus*," &c. And this book has also happily found its way to the same accessible repository—the Royal Irish Academy. It was carried to France by one of the adherents of James the Second, and was, after his death, lodged in the Irish College at Paris, where it remained until the year 1787, when it was restored by Doctor O'Kelly, Superior of that college, and deposited in its present place of custody. This book consisted originally of 624 pages, closely written, in double columns, on vellum of a large size; but at present the first nine folios are deficient.—The Ulster Annals (so styled, as although a general history of Ireland, they more particularly than others record the affairs of that province), are, like those of Tigernach, Boyle, and Inisfallen, written partly in Irish and partly in Latin; they commence at the year 431, were continued to 1541, and are now preserved, or at least a considerable portion, in what are called the Chandos MSS. of the Bodleian Collection. There is also a copy, but im-

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perfect and interpolated, in the British Museum. These Annals of Ulster, next to Tigernach's, are considered the most faith-worthy, and were therefore edited by Dr. O'Conor down to the year 1131.—Another provincial history, entitled the Annals of Connaught, succeeds in order of time; and a fine copy of it, transcribed in 1783 from the original, then in the possession of the elder Doctor Charles O'Conor, is in the Royal Irish Academy. It extends from 1224 to 1544, and is the fullest chronicle of the affairs of Connaught. The narrative is, in many instances, circumstantial, and the occurrences of the different years in every part of the province are, with the foundings of castles and churches, minutely noted in chronological order.—Next may be mentioned the Annals of Inchmacnerin, in Lough Ke; they commence, according to Doctor Nicholson, at the year 1013, and end with 1571, being possibly those in the Manuscripts of Trinity College, which, from an erroneous statement of Dr. Todd (since retracted), was, in the first volume of this Work, p. 133, suggested as likely to be the Book of Kilronan. But the fullest, most important, interesting, and general of all, and what happily are now in train of publication, are the Annals of the Four Masters, sometimes called the Annals of Donegal, as having been written within the Franciscan Friary of that ancient town, the chief seat of the O'Donnel. Of this work it is here enough to say, that it commences with the year of the world 2242, according to Irish chronology, and closes at A. D. 1611.

The project, however, of publishing this last-mentioned muniment of national history, does not include the very extensive portion of that work, which precedes the English invasion; it has been, therefore, the desire and object of the compiler of the "History of Ireland," as prefatory to which these pages have been drawn up, to embody the prominent events, as well from these, as from other accredited Irish Annalists,

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as far as concurrent with those of Boyle, and thus present to the public the fullest native authorities for the subject down to the year 1245. They will be found to preserve singularly faithful outlines of remote events; undisguisedly exhibiting, on the one hand, the battles, feuds, and vices of the ages they record, the rivalries of petty princes and dynasts, the desolating visitations of foreign oppressors, and on the other, with unadorned simplicity, registering the succession of kings, bishops, abbots, scribes, bards, and sages, the founding and flourishing of schools, the care and custody of relics, —a "*hortus siccus*" of by-gone vegetation: and, most assuredly, when examined in conjunction with the ancient laws, poems, and tales of the country, presenting singularly interesting memorials of a lettered and thinking people, secluded from the habits of the rest of Europe, and wintered beyond the tropics of Roman power; a treasure of language, manners, social intercourse, and religious rites. From those Annals, laws and poems, preceding by centuries the period of official records, yet ever since unalterably reiterated; from the synods of Ireland, the decrees of her councils, the rules of her monks, the registries of her churches, and the lives of her bishops and holy men, the speaking evidences of her former days can alone, perhaps, be legitimately traced. Regardless, however, of these native authorities, the later historians of this country have but dipped their pens in the gall of its animosities; the devoted liegemen of a party, they wrote to maintain a position, and without regarding or inquiring into the grounds of the statements they adopted.

The Annals of Boyle preceded the era of such falsifying influence, and, although the nearest in time of compilation after the English invasion and the interesting events of that period, they yet exhibit none of the rancorous and exciting spirit of national hostility, which too soon commenced to dissociate the ardent but misguided subjects of one empire.

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The original of this historic work is preserved in the Cottonian Collection of the British Museum, a vellum manuscript of 68 pages, classed there *Titus*, A. 25; and a very accurate copy on paper is bound up with other Annals and Ecclesiastical Registries, in a volume of the Dublin University Manuscripts, classed E. 3. 2. They commence at the earliest period of scriptural history, and, treating briefly of general history, with some few notices of Ireland interspersed, to the time of St. Patrick, they are, from that period, almost exclusively devoted to national events, down to the year 1245, where the work closes. The late Doctor O'Conor, the Venerable Bede of his country's history, has indeed done much towards re-uniting the fragments of her Chronicles to the period of the English invasion, in his "*Rerum Hibercarum Scriptores*," printed under the auspices of the late Marquess of Buckingham; and wherein he not only translated and diligently collated these portions of the Annals before alluded to, but, yet more, accompanied them with such notes and illustrations as his genius, research, and learning could supply. In this Collection Dr. O'Conor includes the Annals of Boyle, but he has omitted that first section of its manuscript, which more particularly refers to general history, and to the affairs of Greece and Rome, concluding, its transcription would but weary the reader; his publication of them, accordingly, only commences with the year 420.

In the "*History of Ireland*," however, which is annexed to this Essay, all of these notices relating to that country are restored, and will be found running through its pages, like the other "Annals" of Boyle, translated, and in a distinguishing type. These few early notices being almost wholly in Latin, while those of subsequent date are printed in the second volume of the "*Rerum Hibernicarum Scriptores*," it would unnecessarily increase the expense of this work to repeat a text of such practicable access.

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Having thus introduced the "Annals of Boyle" to the reader, it may be asked, how this particular compilation came to be selected, as that, by which the course of the annexed History was to be guided? The answer will disclose some of the difficulties that works on Irish History or Antiquities must as yet encounter,—a bounty can alone bring them into market; no publisher, as the author of these volumes can testify, at least on his humble experience, will, or prudently could, at once indemnify the writer, and present such a work to the public, in a respectable form; there is, consequently, no alternative left for one that would prosecute such an object, but to claim, from those who might favour the introduction of peaceful studies in Ireland, and promote its dispassionate illustration, their aid and co-operation, at least for his mere indemnity. Having felt the necessity of adopting this course in former works for the local illustration of Ireland, the author, although the numerical result in these fell far short of his expectations, determined on seeking a similar guarantee for one of its general history, and so confident was he still in the certainty of a vastly increased list, that he actually contemplated, as he then thought, the original undertaking of editing the Annals of the Four Masters, as decidedly the most full in narrative, and extensive in scope of time; fortunately, however, it transpired, in an interview with Messrs. Hodges and Smith, that they had theretofore, at their personal responsibility, engaged an editor and translator for this very work, had incurred considerable expense in the necessary preliminaries, and were about to issue circulars (as they have since done), for a subscription list, they, therefore, claimed a right of pre-occupation, and their wish was responded to; the harvest of national literature is too heavy to justify prejudicial conflict, the apprehension ought rather be, that too much valuable produce must perish, from the deficiency of

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labourers to gather it in, and, in truth, as the price which these respectable publishers, with the most zealous wish for circulation, deemed it necessary to put upon their volumes, was six guineas, a private individual may congratulate himself, as having escaped such serious risk in the cause of patriotism. The "Annals of Inisfallen" seemed the next best calculated to gratify public attention, and, although the general class of subscribers might be diminished, by the title sounding as local, yet it was thought this disadvantage could be countervailed, but of course with increased labour and research, by associating the Annals with a history of Inisfallen and the lovely lakes of Killarney, or even, on more extended local encouragement, a History of Kerry, and thence obtaining a considerable co-operation from resident proprietors. The individual, in rank and influence projected as most likely to promote this object, appeared to be the Earl of Kenmare, and accordingly, it was proposed, that the History of Kerry, with a supplemental volume or volumes, comprising the Annals of Inisfallen, should be undertaken, if his Lordship would appropriate £200 towards the outlay, not to be paid until the whole work was accomplished; but to that communication no reply has ever since been received. The third, and more successful application, was submitted to Viscount Lorton, in reference to the "Annals of Boyle," with an accompanying volume on the Statistics and History of the Barony of Boyle, which it was offered to compile, on an appropriation by his lordship of 100 guineas, that sum being, in this case, deemed a sufficient contribution, as the scope of the local matter was only over a barony. Lord Lorton's answer was immediate, not only assenting to promote the publication, but, as some engravings of the scenery of his princely residence would greatly enhance the value of the work, his Lordship was pleased to invest £200 in bank, at the disposal of the author. This noble auspice was followed by an ap-

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propriation of £50 by the late Mr. Tenison, in regard to the romantic scenery of Castle Tenison, within the barony of Boyle (of which three engravings were to be and are given by the compiler), an obligation which his brother and heir, Captain Edward King Tenison, has since ratified and discharged. Mr. Mulloy of Oakport also contributed three views, and Mac Dermott Roe one, connected with their respective estates in that barony. Having thus adopted the Annals of Boyle, it was more than appropriate to give the fullest local illustration of the scenes in which they were compiled, and with much of which they were especially conversant; nor can it surely be objected to, that the vignette title of the work exhibits the seat of its noble patron, and that an introductory volume is devoted to the statistics and history of one of the most picturesque baronies in Ireland, and withal, the land where Carolan, the justly celebrated bard, passed his happiest hours, and found his last home.

It was not hastily or unadvisedly, that the work, as its scope had been then contemplated, was undertaken. The original prospectus, largely circulated, proposed only to print a translation of the "Annals of Boyle," with notes, historical, topographical, and genealogical, and an introductory history of the town of Boyle and of the interesting localities of its barony, in *one* volume, embellished with 15 plates; "price to subscribers one pound, to be paid when the work was announced as ready for delivery on order." For the work, thus limited, the appropriations above alluded to were, with a subscription list of 300, sufficient indemnity, and on that basis has the author ever signified his readiness to publish any of the extensive collection of manuscripts which he had amassed. When, however, the proposed subject was more intimately examined, the Annals of Boyle, although their meagreness was the best test of their antiquity, were considered too brief to afford that gratification to the

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general reader, and that impulse to national history, which were the main object of the encouragement conceded; it was, therefore, at once resolved, with great additional labour, to supply the deficiencies of these Annals from other native sources, in fact, to compile a History of Ireland for the period embraced in them, viz., from the earliest time to the year 1245, but retain, as in distinct paragraphs and type, the succession of the "Annals," so that they could, at a glance, be selected from the additional matter. It was further volunteered to give yet more local and personal interest throughout Ireland, by enlarging and extending the Notices, topographical and genealogical, to every place and family that is mentioned in these Annals, and lastly, to purchase for the engravings a superior finish; yet, while the work was thus embellished and extended into *two* volumes, the price to subscribers has, of course, remained unaltered. After such disinterested efforts, the compiler was vain enough to think, that the majority of those, whom he selected in the direction of his numerous circulars, nobles and gentry, would, for the cause, not only co-operate, by placing their own names on the subscription list, but become the centres for extended and effective circulation of the prospectus, yet was the original number so little increased, that the edition has been, in prudence, limited to 500 copies. It is, however, proudly relied upon, and gratefully acknowledged, that this list comprises the names of noblemen, prelates, members of Parliament, clergymen, and gentry, of every varied shade of religious and political opinions, and sincerely does the author hope, that they will feel satisfied with the conduct of the work. "If," as he has before expressed himself, "there be any, who would expect or desire to see in this, or any of his works, a comment that could dissociate the hearts of British subjects, feed a prejudice or flatter a party, it is unequivocally avowed, that, however gratifying or remunerative their

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patronage might, under other circumstances, be, it cannot be purchased by a surrender of principles which have become unalterable rules of action. The truth of history shall not be compromised; but it is hoped, that a candid retrospect upon the unhappy errors and feuds that have so long divided Ireland, the jealousies that have checked its advance in the march of nations, and the misgovernment that has recoiled with retarding influence on its rulers, may, on the one hand, happily facilitate their correction and abandonment, while, on the other, details of honourable achievement, and devoted loyalty, in past times, should be the best incentives to national pride and unreserved allegiance in future." The "History of Ireland," printed herewith, is the fourth historic work that the author has compiled and published within six years, a task which could not, of course, be accomplished in that interval, were it not facilitated by manuscript collections and indexes, hereinafter detailed, the result of upwards of thirty years' devoted application of study, time, and income. To gather in these from the various repositories, libraries, and public offices, has been a labour and expense continued and unceasing—the silent patriotism of his life. To facilitate the progress of such researches for others, to point out the respective sources whence information may be derived, the mass of material that has resulted in the present instance, and the order and classification into which they have been digested, will best effectuate the object of this little Essay.

"The records and archives of Ireland have been fatally scattered; the consuming lapse of centuries has been the least effective of their destroyers. The Christian missionaries set the example of literary despoliation; they were indefatigable in suppressing the memorials of heathenism. The Danes were the bitter agents of retaliation, they flung the torch on every monastic receptacle of literature, and

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during their military occupation of Ireland, an interval of nearly 250 years, laboured unceasingly to accomplish that total annihilation of native MSS. which they subsequently so effectuated in England. In the beginning of the eleventh century, a deplorable conflagration reduced to ashes the great Library of Armagh, the shrine of much that had escaped the fury of the northern invaders. The first English adventurers were scarcely less rapacious of the gleanings which their forerunners had overlooked; the same policy, that dictated the destruction of the memorials of Scotland in the reign of Edward the First, continued to be openly professed towards Ireland to the days of James. The literary spoliation, induced by the suppression of the monasteries, was not less wantonly exercised in Ireland than in the sister island, while the happy result of King Henry's appointment of Leland to the office of Royal Antiquary, by which so many valuable monuments of learning were redeemed in the latter country, was not extended to the former. In the reign of Elizabeth, Carew and Sidney were instructed to destroy or carry off all the MSS. they could discover, and too effectually did they accomplish the order. The visitation of Cromwell succeeded,—a career of slaughter, confiscation, and religious persecution. Two rebellions, the result of misguided loyalty and ill-requited enthusiasm, having involved all that was respectable in the country, were crushed with frightful re-action. All Ireland was, in a manner, declared forfeited to the Crown, and its ancient inhabitants subjected to the ruinous consequences of one parliamentary attainder. The victims of this fatal policy, expatriated from the scenes of their hereditary history, were at least eager, where they could, to carry with them its records and memorials; they snatched from the libraries, and monasteries, and cabinets, the annals, the muniments, the title-deeds of the land; they carried them as all of venerable that could then be saved from the desolation that rioted over their homes—

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they treasured them as the Penates of their early attachment, and when they looked upon the mouldering fragments of these national documents, in the respective lands of their exile, the remembrances of their country were softened into melancholy endurance The detail of these literary mortalities might damp the ardour of inquiry; even the most enthusiastic might question the authenticity of what could survive such a succession of hostility: much, however, is yet treasured as relics amongst the Manuscripts of the Royal Irish Academy, those of Trinity College, the British Museum, the Bodleian and Lambeth Libraries, the invaluable but, unhappily, less accessible Collection at Stowe; and withal in the too little investigated literary receptacles of foreign states and monasteries, the repositories of Copenhagen and Stockholm, the libraries of France and Germany, Spain, and those of Italy, especially that of the Vatican. With such of these materials before him as he can collect, it will be the duty of the calm Irish historian, to take from fable its extravagance, to disembarrass truth from the drapery of romance, to raise the vision to a perspective of ages when tradition held the place of history, to draw out the concurring testimonies of facts from songs and ballads, to discover the identity of biography in the fleeting tales of the bards, the adulatory genealogies of the 'Fileah', and the varying traditions of the 'Seanachies;' all of which it were as unbecoming to receive with implicit credulity, as to reject with uncompromising scepticism"(*a*). When the materials from the internal sources of information, the annals, poems, laws, biography, tales, and genealogies of the country are explored, there is yet much to be consulted of what may be

(*a*) Dalton's "Essay on the Ancient History, Religion, Learning, Arts, and Government of Ireland," p. 368, &c., published as a Prize Essay by the Royal Irish Academy (Trans. vol. xvi. part i.)

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considered external evidences—the Rolls of Parliament, the ancient Statutes and decisions affecting Ireland, the Acts and orders of Council, the various classes of records in the Tower of London; the charters, patents, and inquisitions in the Chancery and Exchequer of Ireland; the manuscript collections in the Libraries of Primate Marsh, and of that most nationally serviceable, liberal, and effective institution, the Dublin Society; the Bulls of the Popes; the "*Acta Sanctorum*" and monastic memorials; the publications and Transactions of learned bodies in connexion with the subject; the existing general and local histories and biographies; the newspapers, journals, gazettes, magazines, and pamphlets, from the earliest attainable periods; state Letters, and official correspondence; parliamentary papers and journals. If the attention is to be further directed to literary or legal inquiries connected with local topography, as rights of manors, royalties, fisheries, lay and ecclesiastical patronage; or with the history of families, their honours, achievements, possessions, and pedigrees, in the former instance, in addition to many of the foregoing authorities, tour books, maps, diocesan registries, plea-rolls, and memoranda rolls in Bermingham Tower, must be explored; and in the latter, the heraldic and peerage books, especially that of Lodge; the pleadings in Chancery and Exchequer; the parliamentary writs, parochial registries, private Acts of Parliament, ancient family deeds, and, in very many cases, the continental records of the Irish Brigade, might be effectively consulted. From all these sources, and from even more than are here enumerated, the manuscript indexes and compilations before alluded to, and which have facilitated the author's pursuits, both legal and literary, were digested, and through these indexes the volumes, as well those which he has printed as those which remain unprinted, but are detailed in the following catalogue, were compiled.

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CATALOGUE

OF THE

MANUSCRIPT INDEXES AND COMPILATIONS

OF

JOHN D'ALTON, Esq.,

BARRISTER-AT-LAW, M. R. I. A., CORRESP. MEMB. S. A. S., ETC.,
48, SUMMER HILL, DUBLIN.

1. INDEX, one volume folio, entitled, "Antiquarian Dictionary," containing full references to the Diocesan History of Ireland, in which the Provinces and Sees are distinctly classified, and their records and notices, with the authorities, subdivided, to facilitate research, into legal and literary notices; with these are here indexed, similarly subdivided, the records and notices of the Counties of Antrim, Armagh, Carlow, Cavan, Clare, Cork, Derry, Down, Kildare, Limerick, Meath, Tipperary, and Waterford. There are also arranged in this volume, references to the chief sources for information on the following, amongst many other subjects: Absentees; Annals; Archery; Architecture; Arms and Armour; Arms genèalogical and Heraldry; Arts and Sciences; Bards; Baronages, Knights, &c.; Boroughs; Brigade Irish; Crosses; Druidism; Ecclesiastical Biography, History, Ornaments, and Revenues; Education; Fisheries; Forfeitures and Forfeited Estates; Funerals and Modes of Burial; History, &c., of Ireland; Legislation, Parliaments, &c.; Manners and Customs; Manufactures; Music; Natural History. General references for Pedigrees (subdivided into legal and literary, and those deducible from England classed by its Counties); Peerage; Tithes; Topography general of Ireland, similarly subdivided. Likewise some selected references relative to the reigns of Charles the First, Charles the Second, and Anne, in Ireland; and to the provinces of Leinster and Munster. This

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volume closes with directions for searches in cases of title, forfeitures, advowsons, pedigrees, peerages, &c., &c.

2. Indexes, three volumes quarto, to materials for the pedigrees and memoirs of every family of tenure or station in Ireland, giving, in all instances, the authorities, and comprising those of upwards of 2,500 surnames, and most especially comprehensive on those of Aylmer, Baldwin, Barnewall, Barry, Bellew, Bermingham, Blake, Brabazon, O'Brien, Browne, Burke, Burton, Butler, O'Byrne, Carew, Mac Carthy, Chichester, Cole, O'Conor, Conyngham, Courtney, Crawford, Cusack, D'Alton, D'Arcy, De Courcy, Delamer, Devereux, Dillon, O'Doherty, Mac Donnell, O'Donnel, Everard, Eustace, O'Ferral, Fitz-Gerald, Fitz-Maurice, Fitz-Patrick, Fitz-William, Fleming, French, Gardiner, Grace, Hamilton, O'Hara, Harcourt, Herbert, Heron, Hill, Hussey, Johnstone, Jones, Kavanagh, O'Kelly, Kennedy, De Lacy, Lambert, Leigh, Leslie, L'Estrange, Loftus, Luttrel, Lynch, Mac Carthy, Mac Mahon, Mac Namara, Malone, Mandeville, Marshall, Matthews, Maxwell, Meredith, Molyneux, Montgomery, Moore, O'More, Nangle, O'Neill, Netterville, Neville, Norris, Nugent, Palmer, Parker, Percy, Phillips, Pigot, Plunket, Power, Preston, Radcliffe, O'Reilly, Reynolds, Roche, Rochfort, O'Rourke, Russel, St. Leger, Savage, Smith, Spenser, Stafford, Stanley, Stewart, O'Sullivan, Swift, Sydney, Taaffe, Talbot, Taylor, Tyrrell, De Verdon, De Vesci, Walker, Ward, Warren, Wellesley, Wentworth, White, Wingfield, Wyse, Young, &c. These volumes have also comprehensive materials for the History of Ireland, arranged and indexed under General History before the invasion of Henry the Second, and after that under the several and respective reigns of the English Sovereigns, and the titles of the Commonwealth, Cromwell, and the Pretender. They likewise contain references on many of the subjects enumerated in the preceding folio volume, and close with collections on the Law of Evidence, in Peerage and Pedigree cases.

3. Indexes, eight volumes octavo, to materials for topographical illustrations of Ireland, arranged, with the authorities, in strict alphabetical order. These extensive collections direct the inquirer to the historic associations, legal records, and statistics,

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of every county, barony, and parish of Ireland, every city, borough, town, lake, river, bay, island, mountain, moor, and valley, every manor, castle, and scene of note; and are so alphabeted and arranged in the scale of civil division, that, in the successive extension of investigation, from the locality to the parish,—the barony—the county—the province in which it is situated—the river or bay on which it stands, &c., no repetitions waste the time of inquiry. Through the references in these will be illustrated any scenic attractions, local associations, historic events, and records of rights, as of manor, fishery, advowsons, relating to the respective places; together with the clear descent or transfer of property. And, if the mass of materials so obtained does not satisfy the object, far more may be yet discovered in "the topography general" department of the folio "Antiquarian Dictionary" before alluded to, and in the Pedigree Indexes, at such names as the transmission of the property may appear connected with.

4. Index, one volume thick octavo, to the chief sources for illustrating the general and provincial topography, with the authorities. This index is divided into five departments; the first for the general, the other four for the provincial, as of Leinster, Ulster, Munster, and Connaught, and each of these is subdivided into the legal records, and the literary notices: the former comprising contents of Charters, Patents, Inquisitions, Surveys, Ecclesiastical Returns, &c., connected with the localities, the latter their Natural Features and History, with notes of their Agriculture, Trade, Manufactures, Local Government, Fisheries, Public Works and Buildings, Charitable Institutions, Population, &c.; while at its close is added a very extensive glossary of ancient denominations, with proofs of their modern applicability.

5. Index, one volume octavo, entitled "Genealogia Generalis," containing directions for searches on family pedigrees, from the earliest period. After some introductory references for general investigation, this digest classes the attainable materials for its object, with the authorities, by periods, as under the reigns of the successive sovereigns of England, from the Conqueror to the present day, with especial attention to the attainders and forfeitures incurred in the civil wars of Ireland. This portion of the

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volume is followed by distinct classifications of collections, for more peculiarly provincial pedigrees of Leinster, Ulster, Munster, and Connaught, then of Scotch and Welch pedigrees; and lastly, of those of English descent, through each several county of Great Britain.

6. Index, one volume octavo, entitled "Antiquarian Law," containing notes of text books, and authorities in any law cases connected with Churches; Dignitaries; Advowsons; Tithes; Charitable Uses; Colleges; Corporations; Franchises; Tolls; Markets and Fairs; Crown Grants; Forfeitures; Pedigrees; Peerages; Manors; Royalties; Sea-shore rights; Fisheries; Water-courses; Ways and Ferries; Bogs; Commons; and Mines; with an "Exposition of Terms," and Points of Evidence in reference to these several subjects. This volume, illustrating the law in such cases, as the Indexes, No. 3, do the facts.

7. Index, one volume octavo, entitled, "Historical Researches' Digest," in which the materials for Irish historical works are classed, with the authorities, from the earliest periods to the birth of Christ; thence to the English invasion, and from that event to the present day.

8. Index, one volume octavo, entitled, "Miscellaneous Pedigrees' Indexes," containing a mass of references for the histories of families, which it was intended to class off in the Indexes (No. 2), but other occupations prevented its accomplishment.

9. Indexes, two volumes quarto, to the materials for illustrating the topography of Ireland, being similar to those at No. 3, but not so comprehensive.

10. Extracts, ten volumes octavo, from MSS. in public repositories.

Vol. 1. From Trinity College Manuscript Room, from Primate Marsh's Library, and from the Royal Dublin Society's Collection. In this volume are also a "List of various Localities in Ireland, affected by Charitable Bequests." A very full "Digest of the Usage of Tithes and Church Revenues in Ireland;" and "Notices of the Woollen Manufacture" there.

Vol. 2. From Primate Marsh's Library, and the "*Liber Hiberniæ*."

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Vol. 3. From the Down Survey, and other Records in the Surveyor-General's Department.

Vol. 4. From the British Museum, and the Royal Dublin Society.

Vol. 5. From the Manuscripts of Trinity College.

Vol. 6. From the First Fruits' Office.

Vol. 7. From Primate Marsh's Library. This volume also contains full notes of Cromwell's Proclamations in Ireland.

Vol. 8. From the Hanaper Office, the Rolls' Office, and Bermingham Tower.

Vol. 9. From the Tower of London.

Vol. 10. From the King's Inns, and the Registry Office.

11. One volume quarto, containing full notes and contents of sundry Charters, Patents, and Inquisitions, from the Rolls' Office; with particulars of the Descent and Pedigree of the King, Malone, and Tracy families.

12. Two volumes octavo, "History of the County of Antrim," containing very full compilations of records and events, with references to the authorities, chronologically arranged under its several Baronies, Parishes, and Localities; with notes of excursions and personal observations through the County.

13. Four volumes octavo, "MS. History of the County of Dublin," compilations similarly arranged with the last, and with additions since the publication of the compiler's history of that County.

14. Three volumes octavo, "History of the County of Galway," with compilations similarly arranged as those in No. 12, and with notes of excursions and local observations in part of the County.

15. Five volumes octavo, "History of the County of Louth," with compilations similarly arranged, as at No. 12; notes of excursions, and local observation throughout the whole County. [A portion hereof has been printed in the compiler's "History of Drogheda"].

16. Five volumes octavo, "History of the County of Meath," with compilations similarly arranged, and notes of excursions and local observations in part of the County.

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17. Three volumes octavo, "History of the County of Roscommon," containing compilations similarly arranged. [A portion hereof has been printed in the compiler's "History of Ireland and Annals of Boyle."]

18. Five volumes octavo, "History of the County of Tipperary," with compilations similarly arranged. The two last of these volumes comprise the "History of Cashel, and the Barony of Middlethird," and were prepared for the press some years since (reserving the results of local observation).

19. Two volumes octavo, "History of the County of Wexford," with full compilations similarly arranged, and notes of excursions in the County.

20. Two volumes octavo, "History of the County of Wicklow," with full compilations similarly arranged, and notes of excursions through the whole County.

21. One volume thick octavo, "History of the County of Armagh," with full compilations similarly arranged.

22. One volume octavo, compilations in aid of a "History of the County of Carlow," comprising notes of records and events connected with Carlow, Leighlin, Ballyellin, and Ballymoon.

23. One volume octavo, compilations in aid of a "History of the County of Cavan," comprising similar notes of the towns of Cavan and Belturbet.

24. Two volumes octavo, compilations in aid of a "History of the County Clare," comprising similar notices as of the general history of that County, that of the Barony of Bunratty, and all its parishes and places of interest; and many of Ennis, Killaloe, Kilrush, Kilkee, Holy Island, Iniscattery, Clare Castle, Corcumroe, and Cencora.

25. Two volumes octavo, compilations in aid of a "History of the County of Cork," comprising notes of reference in regard to Cork, Kinsale, Mallow, Baltimore, Bandon-Bridge, Castle-Martyr, Charleville, Doneraile, Middleton, Fermoy, Youghal, and sundry other leading localities. [The materials, which have been collected for the corporate, civil, and ecclesiastical history of the City of Cork alone, would extend to three volumes.]

26. One volume octavo, compilations in aid of a "History of

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the County of Donegal, comprising similar notices of Donegal, Ballyshannon, Killybegs, Johnstown, Lifford, Raphoe, and Easroe.

27. One volume octavo, compilations in aid of a "History of the County of Down," comprising similar notices of Bangor, Downpatrick, Hillsborough, Killileagh, Newry, Moira, Greencastle, Narrow-water, Saul, &c.

28. One volume octavo, designed for similar compilations in aid of a "History of the County of Fermanagh," but only at present containing notices of Enniskillen and Devenish.

29. One volume octavo, designed for similar compilations in aid of a "History of the County of Kerry," but only at present containing notices of Tralee, Ardfert, Castlemain, Dingle-i-Couch, and Ballybunion.

30. Two volumes octavo, similar, but much fuller, compilations in aid of a "History of the County of Kildare."

31. One volume octavo, similar compilations in aid of a "History of the County of Kilkenny." [The materials, which have been collected for the corporate, civil, and ecclesiastical history of the City of Kilkenny, would fill at least two volumes.]

32. One volume octavo, similar compilations in aid of a "History of the King's County."

33. One volume octavo, similar compilations in aid of a "History of the County of Leitrim."

34. One volume octavo, designed for similar compilations in aid of a "History of the County of Limerick," but only at present containing notices of Limerick, Askeaton, Castleconnel and Kilmallock. [The materials, collected for the deeply-interesting corporate, civil, and ecclesiastical history of the City of Limerick alone, would extend to three volumes.]

35. One volume octavo, similarly designed, in aid of a "History of the County of Londonderry," and containing notices of Londonderry, Coleraine, Newtown-Limavady, &c. [The available materials, for illustrating the comparatively unnoticed corporate, civil, and ecclesiastical annals of the historic City of Derry, would alone extend to two volumes.]

36. One volume octavo, similarly designed, in aid of a "History

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of the County of Longford," and containing notices of Longford, Granard, Lanesborough, and St. Johnstown.

37. One volume octavo, so designed, in aid of a "History of the County of Mayo," and containing notices of Castlebar, Cong, Mayo, Burrishoole, and Lough Conn.

38. One volume octavo, so designed, in aid of a "History of the County of Monaghan," but at present only comprising notices of the general history of the county, with that of the town of Monaghan.

39. One volume octavo, so designed, in aid of a "History of the Queen's County," and containing notices of the general history of that county, with others of Maryborough, Portarlington, Ballynakill, Dunamase, and Leix Castle.

40. One volume octavo, compilations in aid of a "History of the County of Sligo," comprising notices for its general history, and that of its chief localities.

41. One volume octavo, designed for similar compilations in aid of the "History of the County of Tyrone," and containing some few notices of Omagh, Strabane, Dungannon, and Clogher.

42. One volume octavo, compilations in aid of the "History of the County of Waterford," comprising very full notices of the City of Waterford, and Manor of St. John, with those of the towns of Dungarvan, Kilmacthomas, and Lismore, and notes of excursions and local observations through the county.

43. Two volumes octavo, compilations in aid of the "History of the County of Westmeath," containing notices of many of its leading localities, as Mullingar, Athlone, Multifarnham, Fore, Killare, Tristernagh, Lynn, Usneach, &c.

44. Two volumes octavo, containing very full compilations for a much needed "Corporate, Civil, and Ecclesiastical History of the City of Dublin," and of its parishes, cathedrals, churches, castle, college, hospitals, and literary institutions, with the associations and records of even its several streets, squares, quays, &c. [These materials would extend through, at least, three volumes.]

45. One volume octavo, entitled "The Course of the Shannon," being a very full compilation in aid of a history of this

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noble river, its sources and tributaries, from its earliest springs to the town of Carrick, and comprising, thus far, illustrations of its scenery, statistics, and historic associations, with memoirs of the septs and families that have flourished on its banks. This was intended as the first volume of illustrations, that should have followed the river to its mouth.

46. Two volumes octavo, compilations for illustrating the various localities of Ireland, drawn up in an alphabetical arrangement, from "Abbeyfeale" to "Any."

47. One volume octavo, compilations to illustrate a tour through the Counties of Dublin, Kildare, Queen's County, Kilkenny, Waterford, Wexford, and Wicklow.

48. Three volumes octavo, Diocesan Records, in which the ecclesiastical and civil histories, the valuations, visitations, and returns, the rights of ecclesiastical and lay patronage, the state of consistorial registries, the extent and amount of church lands, glebes, and tithes, are stated, with proofs, and classified under the respective dioceses.

49. One volume octavo, being a Digest of all the Funds that, as far as ascertained on extensive searches, have been designed for any species of charitable uses in Ireland, classed under the respective counties, at the localities either charged therewith, or intended to be benefited thereby.

50. One volume octavo, containing collections on the Poor Law in Ireland, its effects and defects, with modes of relieving the poor, according to local resources, and with aid from funds heretofore appropriated for their support.

51. Two volumes quarto, enumerating the various castles, abbeys, antiquities, and other scenes of interest in the several counties of England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland, alphabetically arranged.

52. Three volumes quarto, compilations to illustrate pedigrees selected from the Indexes, No. 2, as they were desired for legal or literary purposes, for honours, achievements, or rights of descent, and with notes of the authorities for each assertion.

Vol. 1, containing such notices of the families of O'Toole,

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O'Kelly, Tyrrel, Lynch, O'Melaghlin, O'Donnel, Caulfield, Vernon, &c.

Vol. 2, similar compilations and notices of the families of St. Lawrence, Byrne, Mac Donnell, Hill, Roche, Malone, &c.

Vol. 3, similar compilations and notices of the families of Brabazon, Nugent, Quin, Vesey, O'Donoghue, Byam, Howard, &c.

53. Thirty volumes octavo, similar compilations for illustrating the histories of families, with the authorities, selected as the last, and for the same reasons and object; being, in truth, a continuation of the three former, and as such are they classed and arranged.

Vol. 4, contains similar compilations and notices of the families of De Bathe, Hudson, Johnstone, and Tracy.

Vol. 5, ditto, of the families of Wyse, O'Mahony, and Crawford.

Vol. 6, ditto, of the families of Esmonde, Wellesley, Eustace, Mac Mahon, and Nugent.

Vol. 7, ditto, of the families of O'Fallon, Everard, Vaughan, Hacket, &c.

Vol. 8, ditto, of the family of St. Lawrence exclusively.

Vol. 9, ditto, of the family of Talbot exclusively.

Vol. 10, ditto, of the family of Vernon exclusively.

Vol. 11, ditto, of the family of Barnewall exclusively.

Vol. 12, ditto, of the family of D'Alton exclusively.

Vols. 13 and 14, ditto, of the family of Malone, most fully and exclusively.

Vol. 15, ditto, of the family of Taylor exclusively.

Vol. 16, ditto, of the families of O'Neill, Mac Donnell, Skeffington, O'Hara, Boyd, Adair, Mac Naghton, Mac Awley, Macartney, O'Cahan, Irving, Bisset, Pakenham, Heyland, Vaughan, Upton, &c. [This volume was chiefly compiled in aid of the proposed "History of the County Antrim," *ante*, No. 12.]

Vols. 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22, as yet blank.

Vol. 23, similar compilations, as before mentioned, of the family of Hamilton exclusively.

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Vol. 24, ditto, of the family of Fagan exclusively.

Vol. 25, ditto, of the family of Fitz-Patrick exclusively.

Vol. 26, ditto, of the families of Fortescue, Rice, Browne, Bodkin, Brooke, Snow, Mac Mahon, O'Halloran, &c.

Vol. 27, ditto, of the families of Tuite, Barnewall, Taaffe, Preston, Gernon, Netterville, Dowdall, D'Arcey, Plunket, Hill, Aylmer, Delahoyde, Segrave, Ball, Pepper, Bellew, Cheevers, &c.

Vol. 28, ditto, of the families of Burnell, Vernon, Bermingham, Cusack, Dardis, O'Rourke, O'Flaherty, Lloyd, Blake, and Lawder.

Vol. 29, ditto, of the families of King, Molloy, Mac Dermott, Tenison, O'Flanagan, Kennedy, Lacy, Doherty, Costello, Petit, Reynolds, De Courcy, &c.

Vol. 30, ditto, of the families of Daly, Dod, Cogan, Coghlan, Mac Carthy, O'Ferral, &c.

54. One volume folio, History of Ireland during the Reign of Henry the Second.

55. One volume folio, ditto, enlarged.

56, 57, 58, 59, 60, and 61. Octavo volumes of further miscellaneous compilations in aid of Irish Historical Researches.

62. One volume duodecimo, containing collections in aid of Irish antiquarian researches.

63. One volume duodecimo, references for the illustration of family histories, arranged by surnames.

64. One volume octavo, entitled "*Bibliotheca Literaria*," being a dictionary classification of the various subjects of usual literary research, objects of scenery, and natural history, with references under each respectively to passages illustrative thereof in approved authors.

65. Two volumes octavo, "*Catalogue Raisonné*," of all the works in the College Library, of popular and general interest; classed under the heads of Divinity, Law, Medicine, History, Biography, Politics, Travels, Voyages, Geography, Antiquities, Poetry and Drama, Arts and Sciences, and Natural History.

66. One volume, large folio, comprising a full list of all the outlawries that issued from the King's Bench in Ireland, for treasons, from 1640 to 1698, alphabetically arranged in columns, under

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the respective heads of "Parties' Names," "Places of Residence," "Dates of Inquisitions," and "Places where held."

67. Two volumes quarto, Excursions round Clifton and Bath, and in South Wales, made in 1826, and drawn up immediately after for the Press, but never since printed. This work, though of lighter literature, yet embraces, with the scenery, notes of antiquarian and monumental remains.

68. Eight volumes octavo, Notes of other Excursions, Monumental and Antiquarian Researches, in England and Wales.

With sundry other literary unprinted compilations, volumes of excursions through Ireland; volumes of Law Common-place Books and Reports, &c. &c. &c.; comprising in the whole 200 volumes, all of the compiler's own collecting and handwriting; and through the facilities afforded hereby, has he, within the last few years, printed and published, on his own risk, the following Historical Works:

"Essay on the Ancient History, Religion, Learning, Arts and Government of Ireland," [Of this work, it having been a Prize Essay, to which the full sum proposed, £80, was awarded, with the Gold Medal, the first edition has been embodied in the *Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy*, vol. xvi. part i. 4to. 379 pages.]

"History of Tithes, Church Lands, and other Ecclesiastical Revenues in Ireland." [Now out of print.]

"History of the County of Dublin," with "Memoirs of the Archbishops of Dublin," 2 vols. Royal paper. Price £2 2*s*. [Now out of print.]

"History of the County of Dublin," 1 vol. octavo. 950 pages. Price 12*s*.

"Memoirs of the Archbishops of Dublin," 1 vol. octavo. 500 pages. Price 5*s*.

"History of Drogheda, Corporate, Civil, and Ecclesiastical. With a Memoir of the Dublin and Drogheda Railway." 2 vols. octavo, embellished with 24 engravings and maps on steel. Price £1(*a*).

(*a*) Some few remaining copies of these last works can be had at the above prices, on an early application to the Author.

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And lastly, the work published herewith, and now nearly out of print, there being but very few copies disengaged, viz., "The History of Ireland, from the earliest period to the year 1245, when 'The Annals of Boyle,' which are adopted as the running text authority, terminate."

All these labours have been undertaken with the object of promoting the knowledge of Ireland. Remuneration might have been hoped for, indemnity was alone required. To guarantee impartiality and calm narration, it has been the compiler's sedulous care, to withdraw himself from the electricity of politics, and he relies, that an inspection of his productions will justify what many have reproached as a culpable neutrality; that inspection will, however, also satisfy the public, that no man, however ardent his inclination, and sincere his patriotism, can, in prudence, continue the publication of such works without national or other liberal support, it is, therefore, with regret, that he feels himself compelled here to decline any further prosecution of labours, so almost gratuitous, unless such sanction be afforded, necessary at all times for this class of works, but more especially so, where, in legal parlance, the venue is laid in Ireland.

So much has this necessity been felt by some noble and influential individuals, that they recently, with a commendable national feeling, besought the Government to connect the Irish Ordnance Surveys, with "Historical, Statistical, and Antiquarian researches." A committee of the House of Commons was thereupon appointed to inquire, amongst other subjects, on the expediency of such a measure, and by them accordingly were witnesses from Ireland examined upon that question, and inquiries directed as to what works of Irish topography had been hitherto published, and what resources were available for their continuance. The writer regrets, that, in justice to his present subject, he feels obliged to remark, his attendance on this occasion was neither suggested nor sought, nor were his printed works, or well-known collections for the illustration of his country, even alluded to by the Irish witnesses. On the contrary, his "History of the County of Dub-

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lin," of which a large impression had circulated five years previously, was strangely omitted in a list, that his own publisher was requested to furnish to the Committee, and in which were to be specified all the existing histories of "Irish Localities;" while another witness, who was personally examined (the Rev. Dr. Todd(*a*)), gave it as his opinion, that "a County History could not be rightly compiled by an individual;" that, in truth, it should be the compilation as of a joint-stock company, under the supervision of one staff, or, as another of the witnesses expressed himself, in respect to that of the Ordnance, "under the advantageous direction of military discipline!" The Committee did not, however, coincide with these views; they knew, that, under the encouragement of individual exertions, and in the absence of monopoly, Ormerod's "Cheshire," Baker's "Northamptonshire," Clutterbuck's "Hertfordshire," Shaw's "Staffordshire," and the histories of other counties in England, too numerous to mention here, have flourished and done honour to their authors and patrons. Nor are there wanting, as the writer is prepared to shew, materials to render those of Irish counties, certainly not so replete with classic associations, but reasonably interesting in the peculiar political revolutions, the family vicissitudes, the scenery and resources of the country; but their details cannot be brought out with such a mass of records, such a dignity of size, such an attractiveness of correct embellishments, such an array of notes and authorities, such substantial pedigrees and valuable

(*a*) This gentleman has, nevertheless, since made the above "History of the County of Dublin" the subject of unmerited and frivolous cavils, by an indiscreet appropriation of space in the last of the Irish Archæological Tracts. Such comments, however, should not be reciprocated; but having been ill-advisedly put forth in an Irish newspaper, they necessitated a refutation, which appeared in the *Dublin Freeman's Journal* of the 3rd March last. Indeed the gentleman's evidence on the above-mentioned Commission, as printed in the Parliamentary Report, sufficiently testifies his aptitude to denounce every antiquarian as in error, who dissents from his dogmas. These allusions are here intruded with sincere reluctance, and only in self-defence, and deference to the influential circulation, which the Irish Archæological Society's Tracts should command.

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statistics, as only the exclusive application of the author's time, and the liberal co-operation and support of a noble and wealthy resident proprietary, can effectuate; where, therefore, as in Ireland, that support cannot be so generally obtained, it must and should be extended by any government, wishing to promote the arts of peace and the diffusion of literature. To achieve these noble objects let its honours and rewards be directed to stimulate individual exertion, impartially to encourage the interests of literature, to aid such colleges or local authorities, as may assert a proud desire to trace the footsteps of history through the country of their fortunes and their families, and thus hallow with the eloquence of such intellectual associations, the lovely scenery of their native land; but ruinous to the cause were the policy, that could seek to sanction combination, to incorporate monopoly, or embarrass the free course of history, by a compulsory confederacy of authors and subjects. With such a conviction the Committee so appointed unanimously negatived any advantage from connecting antiquarian and historic researches with the surveys, and certainly, if the "Ordnance Memoir of Londonderry," which was published as an auspice of what that union could effect, were taken into their consideration, it must eminently evince, how the circulation of a scientific work of merit can be retarded by a partnership like this. "Such a union," said the Committee, "we are persuaded, would tend but little to economy, and that little would, in all probability, be only attained by a sacrifice of accuracy and completeness; it would be better not to undertake the investigations at all, than to run any such risk."

Before concluding, in reference to this Parliamentary Commission, it may excite some surprise, that at this age there should be directed to the witnesses, in relation to the policy of publishing Irish Histories, such questions as "Do you suppose there are any parties in Ireland, with whom the study of Irish antiquities is unpopular?" "Do you think there is any danger, that the use made of Irish documents may have a tendency to revive political animosities?" Yet is it too true, that from the civil wars, confiscations, and political transfers of property in Ireland, and the dispensations that unhappily arrayed the deadly opponents by

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religious distinctions, repulsions and jealousies were engendered, which have fatally retarded the advance of the country. An Englishman cannot conceive how "political animosities" could be revived, in the nineteenth century, by the suggestion of what fired the young blood of the sixteenth; as well might he inherit a hatred to his neighbour, because their ancestors had conflicted in the wars of the Roses. "The historian of Scottish events," as the writer has heretofore remarked, "encounters political junctures, that in their time were equally productive of national disunion; but the Caledonian is no longer exasperated by their fullest details, they were the workings of a conflict gone by. The master spirit of their chronicles has fearlessly projected the most heart-stirring conflicts of those feudal times, and his countrymen more than participate with the literary world in the chivalry of his narrative, and the classic interest he has shed over every scene he touched." In Ireland, those feelings of repulsion have unhappily existed within such a recent period, as to justify the interrogatories alluded to; but, while any possible apprehensions, as regards the stability of property, are morally relieved by a reflection on the various relations by which purchase, marriage, tenancy, and such interests, have consolidated the old and new proprietary, and yet more legally dissipated by modern enactments of limitation, any other fears as of "political animosity," which induced these remarks, may be considered as, under the wisdom, power, and goodness of expectant legislation, about to be extinguished for ever.

The writer of this article has here but to add, that the indexes and compilations, of which he has given the details above, are open to inspection, and that he is prepared, while life, health, and professional avocations permit, to make them available for the service of his country; if they are not early adopted he cannot but fear, that "the Catalogue" will be little more than the bill of lading of a ship "that has gone down at sea."

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STATISTICS

OF

THE BARONY OF BOYLE.

BOYLE, within whose abbey the "Annals," here selected for publication, were compiled, and which has, consequently, induced the next ensuing pages of introductory local notice, appears to have derived its appellation from the Irish radix "*boilg*," whose signification of "bubbling water" well applies to the rapid, rippling current, with which its river hurries through the town; and that name it communicates to the barony, manor, and parish in which it is situated.

The barony, which comprises the northern part of the County Roscommon, was defined by Strafford's Survey(*a*) as containing 13 parishes, subdi-

(*a*) In thus referring to Strafford's Survey, it must be understood that the original surveys and abstracts, taken by this talented despot on the Connaught Inquisitions, perished in the great fire of the Record Repositories, near Dublin Castle, in 1711. Copies, or, at least, Constats, were however necessarily kept in the several counties surveyed, and their acreable returns were tradition-

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vided into 434 townlands, or 41,817A.; and, according to that estimate, it has been heretofore rated for subsidy and cess. The Grand Jury Map, published in 1817, laid down its contents as, in Irish measure, 65,137A. of arable land, 25,548A. of bog, and 3,598A. covered with water; but the recent Trigonometrical Survey has, with yet more accuracy, while it adjusts the measurement to the present imperial standard, ascertained the scope of the district as 154,768A. 1R. 3P., whereof 8,707A. 2R. 9P. are covered with water. Of this total tract 68,214A. 2R. 14P. have, by legislative authority, been portioned off in 1833 for the better distribution of local assessment; and the tract, so severed, has been denominated the barony of French-park, leaving 86,544A. 3R. 29P. comprised in eight parishes, as the present extent of the now-called barony of Boyle; and to this only do the following notices apply. The total annual value of its lands has, on the general valuation, been calculated as (exclusive of exemptions) £38,714 3*s.* 2*d.* This estimate was, however, taken for the paramount object of equitably adjusting county cess, and was based upon certain then stated

ally perpetuated as the scale of annual Grand Jury assessment, a course indispensable in Connaught, the Down Survey having been only partially effectuated in that province, and Roscommon and Galway wholly excluded from it. The computations of Strafford's Survey were therefore, *ex necessitate*, especially recognized by the Act of Explanation, as evidence to be adopted in places where the Down Survey had not been taken.

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averages of agricultural produce exclusively. The total population has been returned on the last census as 40,129 persons, of whom the lower order chiefly communicate in the Irish language.

The soil, though of great variety, may be generally comprehended under two classifications; that of the plain districts, whose substratum is limestone, varying in colour and quality, and abounding with petrefactions and madrepores; and that of the mountains and their vicinities, which is based on sandstone. The former, as may be supposed, is by much the more fertile, forming the natural pasture for which this barony has been long pre-eminently celebrated, more especially the pasturage in the tract south-east of Boyle, popularly termed the "plains of Boyle," though its surface is, in fact, considerably undulated. The only sandy land is contiguous to Lough Allen, where it appears to have been formed by drifts from the shores of that lake.

In the mountainy districts, dry patches covered with heath are occasionally found; but the surface, heretofore commonly wet and boggy, or only producing rushes and aquatic plants, and so characterized in Weld's "Statistical Survey of the County Roscommon," has, in latter years, by judicious drainage and the introduction of lime as a manure, been greatly improved; and it but remains by a liberal extension of roads to encourage its cultivation, and facilitate the transmission of its produce.

The most interesting portion of this mountainous

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character, in reference to geological formation, is that on the confines of Lough Allen, forming the celebrated coal and iron district of Arigna. The coal strata here are arranged with great regularity, rising immediately into the high flat-topped mountains, Brah-Slieve and Slieve Curkagh, which are separated by the deep and narrow valley of the Arigna. They dip conformably with the subjacent limestone, and in opposition to the southern declivity of the hills; but the continuity of the different beds is sometimes broken by faults, producing a variation of level from twenty to forty yards wide. The series of strata, their respective thickness, and the extent of the field, are subjects fully detailed in Griffith's "Report on the Connaught Coal District." The quality of the coal is bituminous, emitting a thick smoke before it kindles, and yielding a strong heat, but rather a heavy earthy smell. It is, however, sufficiently well adapted for culinary or manufacturing purposes, and, for the object of smelting iron, is considered as good as any English coal; it also makes excellent coke. The most important colliery is at Aughabehy, on the estate of Captain Tenison, who is the proprietor of others adjacent at Celtinaveena, Derreenavoghy, Tullylyons, Tullyglass, and Crosshill. Others occur, and have been worked at Rover and Kilvin, now the property of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners; at Gubbarudda, Graignageeragh, and Cammock, on the estate of the Mac Dermott Roe; at Graig-na-clogh, held moietively by the Rev.

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Mr. Coote Mulloy, and the Mac Dermott Roe; and at Tullynahaw, on the estate of Mr. William Lloyd, of Rockville, but some of these are yet inaccessible.

In the iron district inconsiderable workings appear to have been made at an early period of the eighteenth century, and continued until all supply of wood for the furnace was exhausted, when the really most important era in the mining history of this district may be referred to the introduction of the process of smelting iron with coal, and the consequent establishment of the works at Arigna, in 1788, by three brothers of the name of O'Reilly. By these enterprising men, who held under a demise from the Tenison family, buildings and machinery were erected; and pit coal was, for the first time, used in Ireland in the smelting of iron ore, and both bar and pig iron of the best quality, and castings of every description were produced by the application of this useful improvement. Such enthusiasm as to its ultimate advantage was then entertained, as will be best evidenced by an extract from the Dublin Chronicle of November, 30th, 1790. "We hear that the Arigna works, on the border of Lough Allen, are at this hour in a most prosperous state, in so much that it is expected, that, before three years more shall revolve, the entire provinces of Connaught and Munster will be hence fully supplied with iron of every denomination, and, when the Royal Canal shall have reached the Shannon, the rest of the kingdom will,

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in all probability, be supplied with that useful metal, for which it appeared, on the investigation of a petition presented to the House of Commons last session, there had, in the last ten years, been paid to Sweden and other countries the sum of five millions sterling." The speculation, however, in consequence of the great expenses of bringing in the material and the fuel to the works, transmitting the iron to Dublin, and other impediments and vicissitudes, proved unsuccessful; the O'Reillys were obliged to assign their interest to Mr. La Touche, having previously borrowed from him £10,000. He resumed, or rather continued the works for a short interval, during which, Mr. Tenison and he presented various petitions for pecuniary aid to the Irish Legislature, but in vain; whereupon the operations were wholly suspended, although two coal mines in the southern district were then open for its supply, viz. the Rover colliery, about a mile, and the Aughabehy, about three miles distant. This latter is the largest, and in its immediate vicinity the iron works might have been more advantageously constructed. Mr. La Touche, being also discouraged, assigned his interest to a Mr. Flattery, upon whose representations, and on the faith of a Report upon the mineral wealth of this district, made by Mr. Griffith to the Royal Dublin Society, in 1814, and the repetition of the statements therein contained by that gentleman before a committee of the House of Commons, in 1824, the investment of capital was again invited to this

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valley, and the working of its mines became an object of earnest speculation with several companies, who made the borders of Lough Allen the scene of revived activity and industry.

The Irish and Hibernian Mining Companies, with large capital and intelligent agents, began operations in the mountains on the north side of the Arigna river; but, doubts having been insinuated by the agents both as to the reputed extent and thickness of the coal strata, the Hibernian Company at once abandoned the speculation, as unworthy of further attention. The Irish Mining Company, however, persevered, and opened several pits; the largest of which, at Tullynahaw (Mr. Lloyd's), on the verge of this barony, was worked to advantage for a long time. But the body that engaged most extensively was the "Arigna Mining Company," formed in London during that speculating period. They obtained an assignment of the original demise which Mr. La Touche had so acquired, and which title was confirmed to him by a decree consequent upon the foreclosure of a mortgage; and, with the concurrence of Mr. Flattery, and the sanction of an Act of Parlialiament (6 Geo. IV. c. xxi.), entered into possession of the premises. A colony of workmen and engineers was brought over from England; the works were restored; a blast-furnace raised; a railroad from the Aughabehy colliery constructed for a distance of three English miles; and an adit or level opened from the foot of that mountain, six hundred yards

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through, to the shaft, by means of which not only was the coal transmissible in waggons from the shaft, but the water was drawn off from the pit. The level, where it strikes under the shaft, is 103 yards beneath the surface of the mountain, and fifty yards under the coal, which is lowered down to it by a break. During the period between November, 1825, and May, 1826, two hundred tons of iron were manufactured here, at an expense of £8 4*s*. per ton. Remuneration was, however, retarded, and ultimately rendered hopeless, by the frequent change of managers, their utter disregard of the company's true interest, the exorbitant salaries to incompetent officers, and the impositions, idleness, and inebriety of the workmen. The company, deterred by the expense of restoring or re-heating the furnaces, discontinued the smelting, when, finally, the concern became the subject of parliamentary investigation, and a protracted Chancery suit, during which the works were suffered to fall into decay, until, on a decision in Equity, the company entered into an arrangement with the before-mentioned Mr. Flattery, who thereupon, in July, 1836, recommenced the manufacture of pig iron and every other description of castings. The value, however, of these exertions, was long deteriorated by reason of the inaccessibility of the mines, until a partial construction of roads and railways removed to a small extent that source of discouragement; but the renewal of litigation has led to a neglect of the

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works and machinery; and their total abandonment in latter years has induced a proportionate neglect of the collieries. The place of Mr. Flattery's operations was near the shore of Lough Allen, on the southern bank of the Arigna river, within nine miles of Carrick-on-Shannon, where the royalties chiefly belong to Captain Tenison. It is more particularly noticed hereafter in the parochial account of Kilronan, where an engraving of the scene is introduced.

Of the mountains of this barony, those in the iron and coal district are the highest, indeed the highest within the county of Roscommon. Brah Slieve is considered to be about 1100 feet above the level of the valley at its base; while Slieve Curkagh, on the northern and opposite side, seems yet more elevated. ("*Sliabh*," it may be here observed, signifies, in the Irish language, an eminence of more than ordinary elevation). A portion of the "Curlew Mountains," as they are called on the very earliest maps, is included in this barony on its north-western confines. These latter hills appear from the town of Boyle in full view, rising from the opposite side of a valley at the distance of about a mile; their height is not considerable; and, as every part of their surface is applicable to tillage, pasturage, or planting, houses may be observed gathering far up their sides, and cultivation, under the encouragement given by its noble landlord, is rapidly approaching the very crest of the hill. That crest is in some places so narrow, that, after looking down from the one

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side upon Loughs Arrow and Gara, with a fine perspective of the hills of Knocknaree and Benbulben, in the county of Sligo, an equally interesting view may be obtained on the other of Rockingham, Loughs Ke, Skean, and Meelagh, and the fine eminence of Slieve Ban in that of Roscommon, with breaks of the Shannon opening through more distant vistas.

Of the internal lakes of this barony, the largest and most beautiful is Lough Ke(*a*), now more generally known by the name of Rockingham Lake, from the seat of Viscount Lorton on its southern shore, and the demesne, within whose extent it is almost entirely enclosed. Receiving the surplus waters of Lough Gara close to the town of Boyle, it fills the bottom of a gentle valley, of nearly a circular form, measuring in diameter upwards of three English miles, with a summer level above the sea, at low water, of 139 feet, and a winter of 144. The shores at north and west, under the Curlew mountains, are rocky, and in their whole circuit are varied by bays and inlets, while the abundance and beauty of its islands impart softness and repose to the enchanting scenery that surrounds it. Nearly twenty of these islands are laid down in the county map; and their names, as Castle, Church, Trinity, House, Hermit, Green, Orchard, Stag, Hog, Bullock islands,

(*a*) Lough Ce would be more correct orthography, as there is no "K" in Irish, but might mislead pronunciation.

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&c., suggest their quality and appropriation, but the detail of their respective attractions and objects of interest, is postponed to the subsequent description of Rockingham; and, for the present, the reader is referred to the drawing taken for this work from the Rock of Doon, the most commanding position for exhibiting their extent. To the north of Lough Ke are the smaller lakes called Lough Skean (i. e. the lake of wings, a name which appears to have been given, like that of Lough Skian, near the Tay in Scotland, by reason of its shape somewhat resembling a kite on wing) and Lough Meelagh, both abounding with pike. The latter, which is particularly picturesque, covers an extent of upwards of three hundred acres, borders the demesne of Kilronan Castle and Knockrany, and washes the margin of the cemetery of the venerable church of Kilronan. Besides these larger lakes of the barony are Carnacarta, Loughankedy, Derrywanna, and Loughangrania, in the parish of Boyle; Blacklough and Derrynasallagh ("the lake of the willow wood"), in that of Kilbryan; Loughnagalliah ("the lake of the old women," from a nunnery that, according to tradition, once existed on its shore), Lough-na Sheidh ("the lake of the fairies"), and Culbalken (that "of the hazel spot"), in Kilronan parish; the two former communicating with the Shannon: Oakport, Finlough ("lake of the limpid water"), Derreen (that "of the little oak wood), Drumcunny (said to be derived from Dochonna, whom St. Co-

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lumba placed as abbot over the monastery of Easmac-neirc, as hereinafter mentioned), Laundry ("the bright lake"), Behy ("lake of birches"), Lough Keel ("the lonely lake"), and Lough-na-Seer ("lake of the artists"), in the parish of Ardcarne; Shan-bally-bawn ("lake of the old white town"), and Drumdoe ("lake of the ridgy black banks"), in Tumna parish; Cavetown, Clogher ("of the stony land"), and Treenamarley ("field of rich clay"), in Estersnow; and Canbo ("the cow's head"), Corbally ("crane's town"), Lisdaly ("Daly's fort"), and Ballinvilla, in the parish of Killumod.

Larger lakes, than any of those enclosed within the barony, adjoin and bound it, and are partly for civil purposes accounted within it; such are Lough Allen, Lough Gara, and Lough Arrow, which, therefore, demand some notice here. Lough Allen is the first great expanse of the River Shannon, if indeed this beautiful sheet of water should be classed in such a dependency. It is certainly the first reservoir, into which that river throws itself; but it also receives from the mountains various tributary streams, that, in flood time, bring down in their aggregate probably as much water as the Shannon itself. It is upwards of thirty miles in circumference, extending about eight in length, while its average breadth is somewhat more than two. In many places unfathomably deep, it is subject to frequent boisterous agitations, the summer level above the sea being estimated as 159 feet, the winter as

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163. It may be said to be bounded on each side by mountains, steep, but not precipitous, several parts of their bases affording slopes with tolerable soil. On its north-eastern shore rises the noble eminence of Slieve-an-Iaran (the hill of iron), while on its south-western, within this barony, are, near Mount Allen, some plantations that pleasingly diversify the landscape. Within this sheet of water are Drumman's island, Corry island, that of Inse, where are the ruins of a church, whose grave-yard has been long a popular burial place; and another, situated near the exit of the Shannon, called O'Reilly's island. This fine sheet (which derives its epithet "Allen," from the clearness of its water, a name, for the same reason, given to several rivers of England, Scotland, and Wales), is yet untracked by any species of commerce. —Lough Gara, at low water, is 222 feet above the level of the sea, and covers nearly 5000 acres of present statute measure, being indented on its eastern side in numerous deep and narrow bays, between which there are corresponding long promontories, consisting of ridges of limestone. The vast head of water, which it affords at so considerable an elevation, would be a noble supply for a canal, if it were ever deemed expedient to cut one through this part of the country. The islands of this lake are, Inchmore, Derrymore, and Inchnageera, with two small, called Crow and Eagle islands. The Gillaroo, or Gizard trout, is said to be caught in this water, and its eels are accounted remarkably fine; while it is

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not to be forgotten, that one of those ancient causeways, which are yet traceable in Ireland, is said to be discoverable, stretching across this lake, and constructed, according to tradition, by a Lord of Moy-Gara, to afford facility of intercourse with the opposite shore, when precluded through Moylurg.—Lough Arrow ("the straight lake"), a small portion of which is accounted in the parish of Kill-bryan, is, at low water, 181 feet above the level of the sea. It is about eight miles in length, of a very irregular form, but in all its varieties picturesque and full of islands, the chief of which are, Innismore, Innisbeg, and Annaghgowla. The charms of this water are much enhanced by the fine mountain plantations of Corrig-a-horna, and the scenic attractions of Hollybrook, the seat of Mr. Ffolliot, one of the present representatives for the county Sligo. This place is beautifully situated between the mountain and the lake, and on the opposite shore is Kingsborough, from which the nephew of Viscount Lorton derives a title of the same rank. Lough Arrow, it is to be remarked, affords in April and May, by far the best trout fishing in this vicinity.

The only extensive bog in the barony of Boyle was on the Coote-hall estate, large portions of which have been in latter years reclaimed. Many minor patches may be still found within this barony, to which cultivation has not yet been thoroughly extended, as on the western bank of the Shannon south of Lough Allen, also between Kilronan Castle

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and Crossna, in the circuit of Ballyfermoyle, and in the low grounds about Lough Ke; but these parcels likewise are all now in a state of progressive improvement.

Three rivers wander through the barony, the Boyle, the Arigna, and the Feorish, each merging in one common goal, the Shannon; but respectively distinguishable in their courses by peculiar attributes; the first, by the exceeding beauty of the scenery through which it passes; the second, by the wildness of its banks and ravines, and the wintry violence of its career; and the third, by its sequestered haunts and peaceful current. The river of Boyle, sometimes called the Gara river, as taking its source from that noble reservoir, discharges the superfluous waters of Lough Gara with a rapid descent of current, especially when swollen by floods; running beside Tevannagh, the Druid altar of Ballynamultagh, the gentle promontory and weir of Tinnecarra, the ravine and overhanging cemetery of old Isselyn, the chapel, manor-house, town, pleasure-ground and abbey of Boyle, the church and caves of Drum, into Lough Ke. Emerging thence, augmented by streams from the Curlew mountains, this picturesque river leads its tributary waters south-eastward. From Lough Ke it is for a short distance navigable for row boats, or small craft; but below Knockvicar bridge, and again below the upper lough of Oakport, near Coote-hall, it is singular to observe how the only vent for two great lakes is

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contracted to a mere rippling rivulet. As if, however, weary and impatient of restraint, it throws itself out, or otherwise expands into those charming sheets, that constitute the upper and lower loughs of Oakport, and the wide and irregular polygon of water that surrounds Inchatyra, and washing the ruins of Killeen church at north, and those of Tumna at south, flows into the Shannon a little above the thriving town of Carrick. The abbots of Boyle had once no less than twenty-four eel-weirs at stated places on this stream. It also abounds with trout, perch, and a small kind of red-fleshed sprat, said to be peculiar to itself, much esteemed, and formerly caught in great abundance in the summer season, but now more rarely met with. The improvement of this river to Lough Gara, would make it the chief feeder of the traffic of the upper Shannon; it would seem, however, that it is designed to terminate the extent of the projected navigation of this arm, at a point about a mile east of Boyle, but possibly a continuance by canal may be in ulterior contemplation.—The Arigna river, before alluded to, takes its rise on the conterminous boundary of Leitrim and Sligo counties, deriving its first waters from both sides; hence it enters that of Roscommon, and, running with rapid current and considerable falls through the valley that divides the north coal field from the iron works, increased in winter by numerous tributary cataracts, formerly met the Shannon, over a winding and ob-

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structed channel, at Ballintra, which always in winter caused a heavy head of water, and an overflow of the adjacent lands. This periodical visitation is now, however, in a great measure removed by an artificial straight channel, which guides its current directly into Lough Allen, while a dam or weir across the exit of the Shannon is constructed, to maintain the waters of the lake in a prescribed level, or only permit such an overflow, as must at times occur, to throw itself off without comparative injury.—The third river alluded to, the Feorish, is so called as taking its rise from "a spring well" in the county Sligo, whence it enters this barony above Ballyfarnon, and flowing by the demesne of Alderford, leaves Lough Skean at south, and Lough Meelagh at north, whence, by Knockranny, and by the wood of Derreenargan, it empties itself into the Shannon, near where that river issues from Lough Allen. Through all the graceful windings of its course it affords to the angler excellent diversion, and, although it constitutes neither a county nor a barony boundary, it separates here the diocese of Ardagh from that of Elphin.

To these notices of the rivers of the interior it must be added, that the lordly Shannon is not only the magnificent boundary of the barony of Boyle, on its whole eastern side, dividing it from the barony and county of Leitrim, but, yet more, has been for centuries the acknowledged, as it was ever the natural, barrier between the province of Connaught and

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the other three. Having progressed through Lough Allen, as before suggested, it steals forth a small, and, as it would seem, insufficient, embouchure, for the discharge of that vast reservoir, while its free escape was heretofore yet further retarded by eel-weirs, and on the marshy flats by a thick vegetation of rushes. It passes hence by the Leitrim parish of Drumherriff, and rushes with considerable force under the six arches that give name to Battle-Bridge, but, at a very short distance below that, assumes an even surface, rolling in a slow, and seemingly deep, stream, between banks of clay; and the obstacles, that arise to its navigation from the lake, being obviated by a canal, which is carried at the Leitrim side, and here unites with the Shannon, the river is itself traversable for boats of burden, without interruption, thence to the canal near Jamestown. Leaving Battle-Bridge, it glides in the immediate vicinity of the town of Leitrim, where it is joined by a small stream, and flowing by Cloonfad, receives the waters of the river of Boyle, and glides by Carrick, out of the barony under consideration. No one, however, can look upon this lovely river, upon the "Shannon's flowery banks," as Carolan sings of it at this same point of observation, without wonder and regret, that its attractions have been so long slighted. Winding through noble lakes, and embracing innumerable islands covered with historic architecture, it runs a course of 234 miles, receiving upwards of 30 rivers and 45 lesser streams, traversing the

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heart of the island, and thus offering the advantages of double that length of coast, yet neither its beauties nor its resources engaged the attention of the tourist, the historian(*a*), the philosopher, or the political economist. In the remote ages it was but as a mighty fosse, interposed by nature against the hostility of contiguous petty governments; after the English invasion it was for centuries the terminator of their legislation and authority ; in the civil wars, that devastated the other provinces, that beyond the Shannon was by national hostility marked out as the only asylum for the infatuated, but chivalrous, adherents of the Stuart dynasty,—the only wild waste that no conqueror coveted. During the ages of Ireland's distinct parliamentary assemblies, scarcely any measure was effectuated for the navigation of the Shannon ; not a sail or boat was to be seen upon its waters; no development of its utilities; no grate-

(*a*) Some years since, the Author of this work collected from his manuscripts the materials for a very full "History of the Course of the Shannon, and its Tributaries," from their earliest springs to the sea; illustrating the scenery, statistics, and historical associations of all their localities, with memoirs of the septs and families that have flourished on their banks; but, as the subject would occupy three volumes, and should be embellished with numerous engravings and woodcuts, its publication was in prudence declined, even by one who has devoted so much to the cause of Irish literature; and a work which he, perhaps presumptuously, hoped would, as likely to promote that object, be encouraged by national and individual co-operation, has been consigned to the companionship of similar unedited manuscripts.

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ful results of industry or expenditure; no roads or approaches introduced its havens and creeks to the interior, it flowed unheeded, and worse than unproductive; and it is only now, when a power superior to that of water is about to supersede much of its benefits, that some efforts are called into action for its improvement. Upwards of £10,000 has been already levied off the County of Roscommon to facilitate its navigation, of which £1,400 was assessed and raised off this barony of Boyle, being about 1*s.* 2*d.* per acre, while it is yet proposed to levy off this county £48,803 additional; and, although the portion of its course here alluded to has yet little benefited by the assessment, it must be admitted, that in its southward section immense boulders have been raised from all parts of the channel, bridges constructed, beacons and light-houses erected, and the foundation laid for a rich and lucrative agricultural traffic by the port of Limerick.

The other objects of interest in this barony will be found noticed under the titles of the eight respective parishes which it contains, viz., Boyle, Estersnow, Killumod, Killuken, Ardcarne, Tumna, Killbryan, and Kilronan.

THE PARISH OF BOYLE *ALIAS* ISSELYN.

The union, in which this parish is situated, extends over 37,196A. 2R. 30P., comprising in one benefice its vicarage, with those of Kilnamanagh, in the barony of Frenchpark, and Ahanagh, in the barony of

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Tyraghrill. The entire rent-charge of the latter, £38 per annum, is appropriated to the payment of a curate for said parish, the deficiency of whose salary is contributed by the Curates' Aid Society. The yearly income of the vicar of the union, from the other two parishes, is about £200, between the rent-charge and the benefit of two glebes, total 35A. 3R. 17P. according to the Ordnance Survey. The right of patronage is in the Diocesan, but the rectorial tithes are impropriate, those of this parish being vested in Lord Lorton. The incumbent has a glebe-house in the town of Boyle, with three roods of ground annexed. In the Roman Catholic arrangement the parishes of Boyle and Killbryan form a distinct union. The acreable contents of this are, according to the Trigonometrical Survey, 20,736A. 2R. 21P., of which 1,252A. 3R. 38P. are covered with water. The General Valuation estimates the lands in the parish as of the total annual value of £8,900 15*s.* 7*d.*, basing their calculations on data before alluded to, *ante*, p. 2, but this scale was for its objects so low, as generally not to exceed two-thirds of the ordinary letting price, on a calculation of better interest to the tenant, than, unfortunately, in most parts of Ireland the landlords, however inclined, are by their own responsibilities permitted to afford.

The townlands, into which the parish is apportioned, are sixty-eight in number, fifty-seven of which (upwards of 17,000 acres) form a part of the estates of

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Viscount Lorton, and these display throughout that husbandman-like and tasteful cultivation, which it is his Lordship's zealous study to extend and encourage, and which his constant residence in the centre of this territory enables him to nurture and mature. The roads are margined, and the farms, to a great extent, belted, with plantations; the tenant, where this improvement is sought over previously demised lands, willingly conceding such boundaries for the shelter and shade, the proportionate abatement of rent, and the exclusive benefit of the grove grass(*a*). There is no common in the whole parish, and the several occupiers, where they are tenants by direct demise from his Lordship, hold at an average rent of about 15*s*. per acre, in the ordinary class of ground; £1 5*s*. on the "plains of Boyle," and £2 10*s*. for town parks. The rents are necessarily higher where the occupier's title is derivative, and conacres prevail very much, bringing from £5 to £9 per acre. Cabins without land, in such cases, are let for £2 per annum, and with a rood of land annexed, for three guineas. The term which Lord Lorton gives, in agricultural leases, is usually for the tenant's life, or twenty-one years; but, where the lessee covenants to build (which his Lordship prefers), that interest is extended to three lives, or thirty-

(*a*) It may be noticed, that, in ancient Irish topographical poems, Boyle is most frequently designated with an epithet expressive of its wooded appearance, "*Bileagaid*."

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one years, with a reversion of one life, to be thereafter named, or twenty-one, and in some cases thirty-one years, from the expiration of the first term; while he also abates the rent in the proportion of three per cent. on the amount of the tenant's actual expenditure. The population of this parish was returned in 1821 as (exclusive of the town) 7,774 persons, increased in the census of 1831 to 9,164; and on the recent occasion, to 9,356; while that of the town (calculated as 2,000 in 1784), was stated in 1821 as 3,407, inhabiting 467 houses; in 1831, 3,433, in 495; and in 1841, 3,235, the houses being numbered as 536: the proportion of Roman Catholics to the members of the Established Church, has been laid down, on a review of the census of 1831, as ten to one; while the classification of the last states 552, of the total population, as engaged in manufactures or trade.

The town of Boyle is situated eighty-five Irish miles from Dublin, at each side of the river before mentioned. Its moieties, thus apportioned, slope down precipitate descents to the water, and are connected by two bridges hereafter mentioned. The oldest and principal part of the town stands on the north side of the river, the main street of which, from the older bridge to the church, was originally the steep line of the Sligo road. This section contains several very good houses, together with the church, the chapel, the barracks, &c.; that on the south side of the river comprises the greater number

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of the new built dwellings, and especially on its summit a crescent of two-storied private houses, the rent of which varies from £15 to £20 per annum. Ill selected as was the site of the town, and inconvenient and unpleasing as is the arrangement of its streets, it is subject to yet another greater objection, but one of too general occurrence in Irish towns,—the mixture of mean houses with those of a better description: an unsightliness, that would have long since ceased, and the town been fashioned into better order and fairer architectural disposition, were it not that a great part is held under old leases, over which Lord Lorton, the proprietor, has no control, and where, without re-purchasing the lessees' interests at their own estimate, the practical benefits, so visibly dispensed around, cannot here be exercised. The expenses of cleansing the town are defrayed by his Lordship, but as yet it is neither paved, lighted, nor watched. Its present trade consists chiefly in the retail of hard and soft wares, groceries, drugs, corn, butter, and other provisions, as well as articles of clothing, and household utensils for the vicinity. The linen market was formerly very considerable, as was its manufacture in the neighbourhood; but its sale, as well as that of frieze and flannel, has of late, as in other places, much diminished. A good and well-supplied weekly market is held on Saturdays, for the sale of meat, potatoes, meal, and butter, within an enclosure at the north-western side of the bridge, erected by Lord Lorton. The town is also

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generally well supplied with river, and sometimes with sea fish; vegetables and turf are hawked through the streets, and ass-loads of coal, bought at the Aughabehy pit at 3*d.* each, are sold here for 1*s.* The inhabitants have also excellent river and spring water. Nine fairs are held annually, viz., on 6th March, 3rd April, 9th and 30th May, 9th and 25th July, 16th August, 1st October, and 25th November, with tolls and customs; but all right to tolls on market days was relinquished by the proprietor, for the ease and encouragement of his Lordship's tenantry. The commercial relations of the people are aided by the establishment of a branch of the National Bank in the town, with the accession of the Sligo and Athlone branches of the Provincial Bank. There are also a Savings' Bank and a Charitable Loan Fund Society held at the Post Office, while, for the literary and political gratification of the neighbourhood, a weekly Gazette is published here; mail and day coaches, public caravans and cars, pass daily from or through the town, and inns and places of entertainment are opened to suit the various grades of travellers, while public-houses, though now less numerous than heretofore, still exist to an extent injurious to the health, morals, and interests of the lower classes.

At a considerable height, on the ascent, but below the crest of the northern hill, stands the church of Boyle, a sufficiently spacious building, with a square steeple, battlemented at top. It was erected originally

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in 1770, and since repaired and enlarged by aid of a loan of £1,000 from the late Board of First Fruits in 1818, with other local contributions, and yet further by a recent grant of £182 from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. It is resorted to by, and was originally designed for extending its accommodation to the parishioners of Aghanagh, in the County Sligo, and is accordingly attended, on days of service, by a congregation of respectable persons, averaging in number about 400; but the building could contain many more. Within it are several mural monuments, and funereal slabs; one at right of the communion-table, to the memory of the justly-revered Edward, Earl of Kingston (grandfather of Lord Lorton), who died in 1797, and his lady, Jane, Countess of Kingston, who died in 1784. This monument was erected, as is stated thereon, by their daughters, Jane, Viscountess of Oxmantown, and Lady Elinor King. Opposite is a small flag, to the memory of Lieutenant Arnold, of the 34th regiment (who died in 1833), erected by his brother officers. At left of the communion-table, a mural slab of white marble commemorates the Reverend John Henry Gouldsbury, a resident of Boyle for sixty-one years, and who died there on the 13th August, 1831, in the 85th year of his age. This monument, it is stated, was erected by the widow of his nephew, John Henry North, Esq., M.P., and in compliance with his intention. Near this is a similar marble slab to Thomasine, daughter of John Meares, and wife of the said Rev. J. H. Gouldsbury,

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who died in 1810. On the side of the aisle is a marble slab, commemorative of Lieutenant-Colonel Redmond Barry, of Ballyclough, County Cork, who died at Boyle in 1812, erected by his brother officers; and a small black one to Hospital Sergeant Le Febre, who died in 1813. Inserted in the wall outside are slabs to John Pritchard, ob. 1781, and his wife, ob. 1797; to Jane Rea, ob. 1803; to the Dingwell family, from 1776; and a fourth to Edward Bruen, of Boyle, ob. 1806. Under the church is the burial vault of the King family.

The churchyard, having been only opened in 1774, previous to which year Isselyn was the parochial cemetery, contains no ancient memorials. Within it, however, have been since raised, at different intervals, monuments to the following persons, inscribed with the dates of their respective obits: Alderman Philip Allen, of Cork, 1808.—John Armstrong, 1803. —Francis Armstrong, 1813.—John Bell, 1838, and his family.—Mrs. Jane Brommell, 1831.—Reverend John Byrne, Vicar of Kilcorky, 1774, "the first person interred in this churchyard."—William Cranston, 1821.—Stephen Crofts, 1794.—Mrs. Margaret Mac Dermott, wife of Terence Mac Dermott, 1831.—John Edmondson, ob. 1811, aged 17, being "the son of Allen Edmondson, of Keighley, County York, for thirty years a resident of Boyle."—The family of Captain Farewell, of the 19th Regiment.—Vault for the family of John Freeman.—John Freeman, 1806, and his son, 1816.—Vault for the family of Fry, of Fry-brook.—Mrs. Fry, 1796.—Reverend

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Alexander Gouldsbury.—Mrs. Gouldsbury, 1810.—Reverend Thomas Hackett, 1841.—A railed enclosure and monument to the Hall family.—Mrs. Elizabeth Hyland, 1829.—John Irwin, 1791.—A railed enclosure and monument to the family of Capt. Laurell, of the 64th Regiment.—Monuments to Lennon family, from 1806.—Mrs. Helen Lockhart, of Boyle, 1797.—Miss Elizabeth Lockhart, 1836.—Margaret Lyster, 1802.—Rev. Stephen Lyster, 1828.—Rev. Arthur Mahon, of Cavetown, 1788.—Mr. James Peacock, "Methodist Preacher," 1841.—Captain William Perry, 1809.—John Purdue, 1817.—Benjamin Rea, 1821, and his family.—Vault for the family of Captain Caleb Robertson.—Captain John Robertson, ob. 1837.—Major Noah Simpson, of the 31st regiment, 1791.—Mary Simpson, *alias* Phibbs, wife of Robert Simpson, 1792.—Robert Simpson, of Boyle, 1797.—Letitia Smallman, *alias* Craddock, 1812.—Frances Strong, *alias* Lockhart, 1817.—Lieutenant Charles Venter, of the North Cork Militia, 1797.—James Watson, 1809.—Mrs. Watson, 1813.—Captain William West, of the Boyle Yeomanry, 1811, erected by his brother, Edward West, Esq., of the city of London.—James Woodroffe, 1837, &c., &c. This graveyard, slanting down the eastern face of the hill, commands a delightful view of the windings of the Boyle river, the expanse of Lough Ke, and its lovely islands, the church of Ardcarne, &c.—The church registry has not been regularly kept or preserved, and in its present state only commences with 1793, and even thence is irregular and defective.

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Between the church and the river, in the valley of the town, is a chapel of ease, if it may be so termed, erected by Lord Lorton for the convenience of the town's-people in winter, when attending service on the height, which the regular church occupies, would be impracticable for the old and sickly. Adjoining this chapel is an infant girls' school, supported by his Lordship, opposite which is the glebe-house before alluded to. There is also in this northern portion of the town a very plain Roman Catholic chapel, the interior of which is surrounded with a deep gallery, and over the altar is a good painting of the "taking down from the Cross." Two other Roman Catholic chapels occur in the parish, one on the townland of Muckmoyne, and the other on Aghacarra, *alias* Carrigeen Roe, at the northern extremity of the Rockingham lake. Behind the chapel of Boyle is a National School, where 334 boys and 210 girls now receive instruction; another, attached to the Poor House, gave education in the last year to 198, as did four others within the parish, at Deerpark, Doon, Knockarush, and Erris, to 151, 144, 185, and 97 respectively. Besides the National Schools and the infant school at the chapel of ease, there is a boys' parochial school, under the immediate direction of the Diocesan Education Society, to the support of which Viscount Lorton largely contributes; while there is near the new bridge a female school, established by the late Viscountess and still exclusively endowed by her Lord. It gives instruction to up-

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wards of sixty girls, whose industry is much encouraged by the needlework of Rockingham House being consigned to their labour and profit. To this establishment the children of Roman Catholics and Protestants are alike admissible, and the strictest attention paid to their moral and social habits, without any effort to proselytize, a course in which Lord Lorton's schools are distinguishable from those of many of the neighbouring gentry. Nor is his impartiality confined to the young; his labourers, servants, and officials, are of both creeds, without distinction or control, and the aged and imbecile are the objects of his pension list, alike on the recommendation of the priest as of the parson. The town dispensary is supported in the customary manner, besides which, another is maintained by his Lordship for the poor of the Rockingham estate and its vicinity.

On the slope of the southern hill, a new sessions-house has been constructed; it is a neat, roomy, and well adapted edifice, built of sandstone, and having connected with it the district bridewell. In this sessions-house the borough court is held, on the first Tuesday in every month; petty sessions on every Monday; the quarter sessions of the county twice in the year, and the seneschal's manor court on the first Friday of each month. The jurisdiction of this latter officer is limited to debts of £3 6*s.* 8*d.* in amount, where contracted within the manor, and that manor, as originally erected by patent of James the First to Sir John King, extends over 100 townlands within

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the County of Roscommon, and 110 in that of Sligo. Opposite the sessions-court is a Meeting House for Wesleyan Methodists, near which a small congregation of Baptists assembles in a private dwelling. Higher on the southern hill is the Poor House, erected in 1841, above which rises Tarmon Hill, whence a fine view is attained of Lough Ke, and Lough Gara, the town of Boyle between, and the Curlew mountains in the distance.

There are at Boyle, as before suggested, two bridges over the river, both of modern erection, plain, but substantial, one of three arches, the other of a single arch. Through these the river passes in a quick stream, shallow and rippling in dry seasons, but, when swollen by rains and floods from the lake, rushing with violent rapidity. The single-arched bridge adjoins the site of the ancient Abbey, of which it affords a sweet view, beautifully softened by the sequestered garden and cottage *ornée* of Mrs. Robertson, the graceful windings and falls of the river, and the rural ivied bridge of Abbeytown, as represented in one of the engravings for this work. Between the two town bridges on the northern bank of the river is the once splendid manorial residence of the Earl of Kingston; it is now used as the barrack, the yard at the river side, overlooking the pleasure ground, affording a fine terrace for parades.

But the object of far paramount interest in Boyle is the Abbey, within whose walls the ensuing "Annals" were compiled, once one of the finest buildings

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in the kingdom, and yet, in its picturesque remains, signally creditable to the munificence and piety of its Cistercian founders, as well as to the taste and skill of Irish architects, previous to the English invasion. It was built in the form of the Latin cross, the steeple, a lofty square tower, being placed at the intersection, and the two transepts constituting the arms. The nave, choir, transepts, and steeple, are yet in excellent preservation. The transepts measure 25 feet by 22, while the nave is 130 by 25. It was separated from the aisles by ranges of lofty arches, supported by round columns of considerable thickness; the aisles have, however, perished, and the spaces between the columns at the outer side were filled up for defence, when, as shewn hereafter in the history, this edifice was used as a fortress; those, however, at the opposite side, are clear and open, now sustaining a lofty wall, overgrown with ivy, which has been raised upon the beautifully carved corbels, that once upheld the vaulted roof. The arches at this side are semicircular, not all of the same span, nor supported in the same manner, the four at the east end, next the tower, springing from massive circular pillars, the others merely separated by portions of wall, levelled and slightly ornamented with mouldings and slender pilasters. On the north side of the nave the walls appear to have been constructed originally with arches, also of different dimensions, but all of the lancet form, some of which sprang from pillars whose capitals, together with

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the cut stone facings of the arches, are distinguishable through the mortar work with which they have been filled up. The side columns of the open side of the nave are ten feet eight high, from the floor to the bottom of the capitals, and composed of regular courses of cut stone, skilfully rounded, and fitted with considerable exactness; the number of courses being about thirteen. The capitals and bases vary from each other, as well in their ornaments as their form, some being octagonal, others square; the ornaments in general are very simple, but there are on the capitals and bases various rude carvings of men and animals; these are generally cut in sandstone, but the greater part of the building stone was lime of the firmest grain. The ground portion was for many years concealed under strata of accumulated rubbish, until, some time since, the late Captain John Robertson, in whose garden the venerable pile was enclosed, carefully removed the piles of earth and stones that disfigured or concealed the building, opened vistas of the fine intersecting arches of the interior, and disclosed the curiously ornamented tracery of the bases. The great arches, that supported the central tower, were 46 feet high, three of them being circular, while the fourth singularly formed a pointed arch. The eastern window was particularly elaborate, consisting of three pointed arches, divided by mullions, decorated with heads, all tolerably perfect. Under it, in the recess of the choir, ancient fragments of the ruins, discovered in the clearings

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alluded to, have been preserved and arranged, and a few old tombstones are laid in the north transept; one of these, unusually narrow for its length, represents, *in alto relievo*, a crozier held by a left hand gloved; the interior of the ruins is otherwise judiciously consigned to the livery and vesture of nature, and secluded from the vulgar access that would disturb the solemnity of the scene. The entrance was at the western end, by a small, pointed, arched door, the window above which consisted of a single opening, small and lancet shaped, still exhibiting on the outside distinct traces of ornament.

On the north side of the nave is a vault, which was more anciently, as denoted on a funereal slab, the place of sepulture of the King family. On the opposite side of the nave, an ash tree of great age extends its roots to the edge of the vault, and contributes much to the general effect. The cloisters have wholly disappeared, but in two sides of the quadrangle traces of the hospital, the guests' apartment, the refectory, and the kitchen, with its capacious chimney and projecting towers, are very discernible, while the whole mass is every where beautifully clad with ivy; but the trees, that formerly embellished the place, have now become too thick and full for its just display, and the hallowed ground has been invaded by the construction of a new public road and bridge at the very gable of the Abbey. When the building, now called the barrack, was occupied for its original purpose, as the magnificent manor-

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house of the Earls of Kingston, the Abbey was enclosed in the demesne thereto attached, as was the swelling hill of Abbeytown, with its noble groups of trees, and Abbeyview to the verge of the church.

Boyle, as will be seen by the records hereafter noticed, was a corporate and borough town, and returned two members to the Irish Parliament, the patronage being in the Earl of Kingston, to whose executor, on the extinction of the borough at the time of the Union, the usual compensation of £15,000 was awarded. The book of the borough transactions was then sent up to Dublin, and has never since been recovered. Captain Duckworth(*a*) is its present borough-master, and as such presides over the only vestige, that has been spared of the dissolved corporation,—its record court. The succession of its parliamentary representatives has been as follows:

1613. John Cusack and Robert Meredith.
1639. Sir Robert King and Richard Wingfield.
1647. Ellis Goodwin and Eugene Lloyd.
1661. John Stepney and John Burniston.
1688. (King James's Parliament) Captain John King and Alderman Terence Mac Dermott.
1692. William Handcock, Junior, and Stephen Ludlow.
1695. Sir Edward Crofton and John King.
1703. Sir Robert King and John King.

(*a*) A gentleman, to whose intelligence and promptness of communication, the author is indebted for much valuable information.

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1709. John King and Henry King.
1713. Sir John King and Henry King.
1715. Henry King and Robert Sandford.
1721. Sir Henry King and Robert Sandford.
1727. Arthur French and Richard Wingfield.
1745. Arthur French and Sir Robert King.
1749. Arthur French and Edward King.
1755. Arthur French and Sir Edward King.
1761. Henry King and Benjamin Burton.
1763. Henry King and Richard Fitzgerald.
1771. Honourable Henry King and Richard Fitzgerald.
1776. Honourable Henry King and Viscount Kingsborough.
1783. Honourable Henry King and Robert Boyd.
1790. Right Honourable Henry King and Laurence Harman Harman.
1792. Right Honourable Henry King and Thomas Tenison.
1799. Right Honourable Henry King and Honourable Robert King.

The chief places of interest in the immediate vicinity of the town are, at the north side, close to the Abbey, the little village of Abbeytown, which has grown up under the shadow of that venerable pile, and presents a monument of Lord Lorton's kind feelings for the humbler comrades of his military life, amongst whom the plots and houses were allocated, and from whom it received its first name of Serjeantstown. On the high ground behind the

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Town of Beyle

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village, over the river, are some fine old ash trees, one measuring in girth twenty feet. This sequestered hamlet is connected with the town side of the River Boyle, by a pretty rural bridge of five arches, thickly ivied. At that town side, near the glebe-house, is Belmont, with a finely-situated and tastefully stored flower garden, opposite which is Abbey-view, the nobly-wooded villa of Mr. Morgan Crofton. Above the latter, at the west of the church, is still to be seen a small fragment of the survivor of one of the five forts, which formerly guarded this important pass into Moylurg. From its commanding elevation the town is seen to great advantage, with the handsome grounds and improvements of Tangier, the court-house, the crescent buildings, and the Poor House, in front; at the left the church, peering through trees, and the opening of Lough Ke; and at right the upper windings of the river, on the near bank of which is seen an extensive flour and corn mill, and close to it, at west, a building, once used as a brewery, but now deserted.

On the south side of the town, immediately contiguous to it, is Tangier, a villa that in its architectural appearance does much credit to the taste of the proprietor and designer, Captain Caleb Robertson; it stands on a fine eminence, and is surrounded by grounds, prettily laid out and planted. By judicious openings in the shrubberies delightful vistas are attained of Boyle, through one of which the opposite engraving of its chief objects of interest has been

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taken, while immediately under it lies the beautiful pleasure ground, which the noble proprietor of the town has enclosed for the recreation and health of its inhabitants. Skirting the margin of the river, this interesting spot enjoys all the attractions of shady walks, evergreen shrubberies, fragrant flower beds, wood-houses, garden-seats, waterfalls, and rustic bridges, while in its centre, on a superstructure over a pedestal, stands a statue of King William the Third, representing His Majesty in an erect posture, with a crown of laurel on his head, and the order of the Garter on his knee. It was transferred from the old bridge of the town to its present position, as notified by its inscriptions; the original one on the pedestal runs: "To the immortal memory of the glorious King William this statue and pier were erected, at the expense of Sir Edward King, Baronet. July 1st, 1763;" that on the superstructure says: "On the rebuilding of the bridge of Boyle, in 1834, this Statue of the true friend of Civil and Religious Liberty was taken down and placed in its present position, by Robert Edward Viscount Lorton, grandson of the Baronet: A. D. 1835."

About two miles from the town, on the south side of Lough Ke, is Rockingham House, the enchanting seat of Lord Lorton, surrounded by a demesne of richly planted and gently undulating ground, that art and nature have vied in rendering attractive; it contains about 2,000 acres, and is accessible through four grand entrances, with suitable gate-houses. The

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house, overlooking all the beauties that environ it, occupies the summit of an eminence that gently descends to the waters of Lough Ke. The grand entrance is under a portico of Ionic columns, into a hall of great extent and fair proportions, the sides of which are embellished with fine scenic paintings. Off this hall open extensive reception-rooms, a library and study, and a noble staircase expands from its centre to the upper rooms; the whole interior, in every department, affording all that could be coveted for luxury or comfort. One of the most striking peculiarities of this mansion consists in its single and insulated appearance, no office of any description being visible in its immediate vicinity, but the whole circuit being (as Weld observes) surmounted by smooth shorn grass, interspersed with beds of flowers and ornamented walks, an arrangement which has been effected by covering the basement story, and carrying subterranean passages towards the lake in one direction, and towards the stables in another; there is thus no appearance of menial movement near the house. The supply of fuel is had through the medium of a canal from the bogs beyond the lake, to the mouth of the souterrain, whence it is brought up to a magazine room on the basement, communicating with a perpendicular square shaft or trunk, where, by machinery, a box, fitting within the shaft, can be raised to each floor, and so delivered into store-rooms appropriated for the purpose. Water is alike dispensed through the

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interior. Adjoining the house is a fine conservatory, well filled with orange trees and other exotics; there are also in the demesne a variety of gardens, shrubberies, flower parterres, pheasantry, laundry-house, gamekeeper's lodge, fishing temple, boat-houses, farm-yard, with workshops, stables, &c. &c. Such are, however, but the ordinary acquisitions of a wealthy nobleman's abode. Rockingham affords gratifications more intellectual, more reflective; the enchanting scenery of the demesne, its extent of winding avenues, disclosing new beauties in every direction; lawns and groves, dales and uplands, magnificent trees, intersecting each other with their gigantic branches, and forming, in their over-archings, arcades and avenues of nature's grandest architecture; long reaches of canals, dividing the grounds and connecting the waters, over which ornamental bridges are thrown, in convenient and well-selected situations, as illustrated in one instance in the vignette title of this work; the lake, studded with wooded islands, consecrated by holy and historic ruins, while the enjoyment of these varied enchantments is throughout the more grateful as they are the willing source of permanent and extended employment to the poor and humbler classes of the vicinity, thus shedding back, with re-productive and impartial bounty, the comforts that had been from them derived.

This centre of attraction is always open to the public, with the most unreserved confidence; and even boats and men are by order attainable for those, who

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Beckingham from the East

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may seek to navigate the lake. On its edge, near the house, is a neat structure, erected as a family chapel. It is seen at left of the castle, in the annexed engraving, but is now not used, as his Lordship prefers more exemplary attendance at the parochial church. The nearest island of Lough Ke, in this direction, is Castle Island, containing a rood and twenty-nine perches, which, with the exception of a small plot of ornamental ground near the landing, and a small inner court and garden, bounded by walls, is all covered with buildings. The castle upon it consists of one fine room, and some returns on the ground floor. This portion was of the original structure, erected in the commencement of the thirteenth century by the Mac Dermot of the Rock, Lord of Moylurg, and in the eight feet thickness of its walls testifies that it must have been raised as an impregnable military position for that once powerful tanist. The large room here now appears well lit by spacious windows at top, and an upper story, of similar sized apartments, but lighter materials, has been raised over the olden edifice, which, with various other alterations, directed by those who succeeded to the inheritance, have adapted it to the purposes of domestic life.—Trinity Island, to the west of this, contains nearly two acres, tastefully laid out in shrubberies and walks. It takes its name from a monastery of White Canons of the order of St. Francis, there erected, and dedicated to the Holy Trinity. The aisle of its ruin measures about forty-two yards by

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nine, having handsome lancet windows, in good preservation, and a very remarkable piece of sculpture, called the shrine. This forms a pyramidal figure, the apex of which is composed of an oblong stone, about two feet and a half high, and eighteen inches broad, of moderate thickness. On it is carved, in strong relief, and wonderfully good preservation, a figure of the Blessed Virgin, representing her seated in a kind of chair, the side pillars being moulded in rings, and sustaining on her left arm the infant Jesus; a scroll is over her head, and she wears a crown of six points, while in her right hand she holds a sceptre. The infant has rays of glory round his head, and over it, in the corner of the stone, is pourtrayed a hand pointing with two fingers, as from the clouds, to the crown worn by the Virgin, to whom also the holy child seems to point, with a similar attitude of hand. The drapery of her robe is well displayed; the covering of the infant is a cassoc, bound round the waist with a cord, and tight round the neck and wrists; his legs are perfectly well formed, standing out with a considerable degree of roundness. On the head of the stone, opposite the corner where the hand points from the clouds, a figure, as of a dove, appears to complete the symbols of the Trinity. This stone stands in the centre of an open window, or circular arch, at one side of the aisle, and under it are two pointed niches perforating the wall, about two feet deep, and divided in the centre by a column, the capital of which is a human head of very rude

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workmanship, now much mutilated; capitals of the same kind crowned similar columns on each side, making a range of three. No other sculpture, of any kind, remains about these niches, which are now the receptacles of a few human sculls and bones, possibly the mortal relics of those religious brothers, who once knelt in solemn adoration before it, and to one of whom is attributed that ancient piece of national history, entitled the "Annals of Lough Ke," which appear to have been designed as a continuation of those of Boyle, extending, as they do, from 1249 to 1356. They are, however, as far as may be judged from a copy in the manuscripts of Trinity College, Dublin, but a meagre detail of obits, with little of general history. Close to the ruins of this monastery, are those of the Friars' House.—Church Island, near the western shore of the lake, and north of Trinity, contains upwards of four acres of present measure; on it also stands a ruin of what was more anciently called the church of Inchmacnerin, and of which many distinct records will be found in the historical part of this volume. It also had its annalists, their historic compilation commencing in 1013, the year before the battle of Clontarf, and ending in 1571 (*a*); but, though alluded to, and described by Doctor Nicholson, they are undiscoverable at the present day. The remains of this house present lofty and extensive walls, amidst a now intricate mass of rocks, trees, dwarf

(*a*) Nicholson's Irish Hist. Lib. *Quart.* p. 89.

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ash, and thorns, closely wound together with ivy tendrils.—Hermit island, in the remotest part of the lake from the house, is at present of as difficult access as the last mentioned, it does, however, exhibit the rectangular freestone walls of a small oratory, once, probably, the abode of the recluse who gave it the name.—Stag island, yet more northward, comprises upwards of eight finely wooded acres, much frequented by herons in the season: and there are, through the expanse of this Lough, many isolated rocks, which in spring are covered with seagulls' eggs. The surrounding waters are well stocked with salmon, trout, and pike, and the supply of the former is likely to be much increased by a dam head, recently constructed on the Boyle river, at the pleasure ground near the town. A tract of thirty-eight acres, projecting into the lake, near the house, is called Drumman's Island, but is, in truth, a peninsula of the demesne, recently isolated by an artificial canal, and now connected by the bridge engraved in the vignette title of this work—while, from another fine eminence overhanging the lake, called the Rock of Doon, this lovely sheet, its wooded islands, its bordering plantations, the isolated castle, the house, the elevated steeples of Ardcarne at right and Crosna at left; the mock battlements of the Forester's Castle, a striking object, whether strongly lit or deeply shaded, are, with the distant hills, as shewn in the annexed plate, most effectively displayed.

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Of Rockingham and its lake it but remains to say, that it is on every side surrounded by the residences of comfortable leaseholders, the shops of thriving artizans, the cottages of an industrious peasantry, and the schools of their respective families within their view, inculcating peace, order, and morality in the rising generations.

The succession of inheritors by whom, during centuries of residence, these benefits have been effected, naturally suggests the introduction here of

A MEMOIR OF THE NOBLE FAMILY OF "KING."

Few sirnames can be found, from the earliest era of authentic history, more widely and influentially extended over every district of the sister kingdom, than that which is the subject of the present notice; accordingly, when Edward the First, immediately after his return from the Holy Land, issued his special commission, directing the Justices in Eyre to inquire of knights' fees, escheats, wardships, and tenures, generally throughout England, families of this name were found established in Lincolnshire, Norfolk, Kent, Derbyshire, Gloucestershire, Dorsetshire, Bedfordshire, Suffolk, Hertfordshire, Berkshire, Surrey, and Sussex. In the Parliament that sat at Westminster in 1313, John King was representative of the borough of Gloucester, Richard King of that of Wilton in Wiltshire, and Walter King sat for that of Plympton in Devonshire. At the battle of Agincourt in 1415, John King was one of those who fought under the banner of the Duke of Gloucester, while the ecclesiastical annals of the ensuing century present no less than five individuals of the name, born within its interval, that were elevated to the Bench of Bishops.—The first of these, Doctor Oliver King, had been educated in King's College, Cambridge, after which he was selected as Secretary to Prince Edward, the son of Henry the Sixth, and subsequently discharged the same office of trust to Edward the

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Fourth and Henry the Seventh. He was one of the executors appointed by the widow of the Duke of York (mother of Edward the Fourth), to effectuate the objects of her will; and, immediately after the death of that monarch, was imprisoned in the Tower of London. On the accession of Henry the Seventh, this divine became his Secretary also, and was employed by him in France to negociate a peace with Charles the Eighth, a commission which he executed with great success. From the Deanery of Windsor he was advanced in 1492 to the See of Exeter, whence he was translated in 1495 to that of Bath, which he retained until his decease in 1503. While in the latter diocese, he immortalized his name by commencing the erection of the present Abbey church of Bath, in the choir of which he directed that his body should be interred. He was, however, buried beneath an altar monument in one of the chantries of Windsor chapel, where, under the oaken panels which present the arms and portraits of the above-named Prince Edward, and of the kings Edward the Fourth and Henry the Seventh, a Latin inscription requests the reader to pray for the soul of Master Oliver King, Professor of Law, and Chief Secretary to the Royal individuals above named.—2nd. Doctor Robert King, descended from an ancient family in Devonshire, became a Cistercian monk of Bewley Abbey in Oxfordshire, and in 1515 was elected Abbot of Bruerne, a house of his Order near Burford; he was subsequently Abbot of Thame, and lastly of Osney, all within the same county. When Oxford was constituted a diocese, he was, in 1542, appointed its first Bishop, where he died, and was buried in the choir of Christ Church. This Prelate had a brother, John, who was father of Philip King, of Wornal in Buckinghamshire, whose son, John, is the next object of notice.—3rd. Doctor John King was born at Wornal in 1559, and educated in Westminster school, graduated in Oxford, became Archdeacon of Nottingham, Rector of St. Andrew's, Holborn, Prebendary of Sneading in St. Paul's Cathedral, Dean of Christ's Church in Oxford, and Vice Chancellor of that University. He was one of the chaplains of the Archbishop of York, and afterwards chaplain to Queen Elizabeth and King James, by

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which latter monarch he was, in 1611, appointed Bishop of London. James used to style him, in allusion to his name, the "king" of preachers, and, although a character founded on a pun should be very doubtfully admitted, yet there appeared much truth in the observation. He was accounted the most natural and persuasive orator of his time, and Lord Chief Justice Coke often declared of him, that he was the best speaker at the Star Chamber in his day. In 1612, he followed in the funeral procession of Henry, Prince of Wales, and in 1617 preached a sermon at Court, of which Nicholls writes: "they say he spake home, and was very plain in many points, which, as it seemed, was nothing pleasing, the rather for that he was a full half hour too long." The same writer, where speaking of the Queen's illness at Hampton Court in 1618, says: "We begin now to apprehend the Queen's danger, when the physicians begin to speak doubtfully, but I cannot think the case desperate, as long as she was able to attend a whole sermon on Christmas-day, preached by the Bishop of London." On her death, which occurred soon after, Doctor King attended her funeral to Henry the Seventh's chapel in Westminster Abbey. Himself died within three years from that period, and was buried in St. Paul's Cathedral.—4. Doctor Henry King, the son of the preceding Prelate, was also born at Wornal, in 1591, and partly educated at Westminster school, from which he was elected a student of Christ's Church in 1608. He also became an eminent preacher, and chaplain to James the First and Charles the First successively; in 1638, Dean of Rochester, and in 1641 was advanced to the See of Chichester. During the Commonwealth he was not permitted to enjoy his see, but recovered it on the Restoration. Wood says of him, that "he was esteemed, by many of his neighbourhood and diocese, the epitome of all honours, virtues, and generous nobleness, and a person never to be forgotten by his tenants and by the poor." He died in 1669, and was interred in the choir of his own cathedral, where a monument was erected to him with an inscription in Latin, stating that he was "antiquâ atque regiâ Saxonum, apud Damnonios in agro Devoniensi, prosapiâ oriundus;" adding, that while he was

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"natalium splendore illustris, pietate, doctrinâ et virtutibus illustrior fuit."—The fifth Prelate of the name, born within the sixteenth century, was Doctor Edward King of Huntingdonshire ancestry, born in 1575; he was educated for the Church, at Oxford, where he graduated as Master of Arts. In 1604 he had a grant from the Crown of the deanery of Elphin, with a stall in the choir, and a seat and voice in the Chapter. In 1610 he was consecrated Bishop of that see, when he built a noble mansion near the town for himself and his successors, and endowed it with lands which he had purchased. He also recovered a great part of the possessions of the see, that had been alienated by his predecessors. Lord Strafford, in his State Letters, styles him "a truly royal bishop;" he died in 1638, at the age of 63, and was buried in his own Cathedral.

This was not, however, it may be supposed, the first introduction of the name into Ireland; it is traceable in many prior records and documents. In 1399, Henry King had a grant(*a*) of the office of the Serjeantcy of Louth for the term of his life, free of all fees. In 1560 Matthew King was Clerk of the Check in Ireland(*b*). In 1566 flourished James King, a learned citizen of Dublin, and a scholar of Cambridge(*c*). The founder, however, of the noble line, that is associated with this History by title and tenure, was not located in Ireland until the close of the sixteenth century, and then, according to the Peerage Books and the authority of Lodge, derived his descent from a family, anciently seated near North Allerton, in the County of York, and there possessed of large estates. In support of this deduction and of the family connexion with Yorkshire, it does appear, on a Roll of Parliament of 1314, that Richard King was then possessed of large estates in the parish of Edlington, in that county: in 1389, the Reverend John King was Vicar of Halifax(*d*), and in the early part of the

(*a*) Close Roll, 18 Rich. II., in Rolls' Office, Ireland.

(*b*) MSS. Brit. Mus. Titus, B. 13, f. 13.

(*c*) Holinshed's Chronicles of Ireland, f. 41.

(*d*) Whitaker's "Leodis et Elmete," p. 384.

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reign of Queen Elizabeth, Alexander King had a grant of certain premises there, which had been forfeited to the Crown; while James King was about the same time seised of certain rights in the manor of Wakefield(*a*). Whitaker also speaks of Skellands, in the parish of Kirkby-Malghdale, deanery of Craven, Yorkshire, as the residence of a family of the Kings, the first of which branch he alleges, on tradition, came thither out of Westmoreland, and garrisoned the Church of Kirkby-Malghdale against the Parliament. It may be here mentioned of the pedigree of this Yorkshire branch, that Thomas King built the mansion-house of Churchend in said parish of Kirkby, and from him lineally descended Mr. King, who accompanied Lord Anson in several of his voyages. The great grandson of this Thomas, James King, LL.D., F.R.S., &c., born in 1716, and educated at Cambridge, became chaplain of the English House of Commons, and was, in 1772, a canon of Windsor, which in 1775 he exchanged for the deanery of Raphoe, and died in Woodstock in 1795, leaving a son, Captain James King, who was the friend and colleague of Cook in his last voyage round the world. The history of this circumnavigation King afterwards compiled at Woodstock, and dying in 1784 at Nice, was there interred. Although it cannot be deemed irrelevant to allude to these evidences of the existence of a family of the Kings in Yorkshire, yet it does appear that the founder of the line, which is the especial object of this notice, describes himself in his will as "Sir John King, of the Close of the Cathedral Church of Lichfield, in the County of Stafford, Knight," and, in affirmance of this more immediate deduction from Staffordshire, it appears on record, that John King had a grant, by demise from Edward the Sixth in 1550, of a term in reversion of divers lands, tenements, and rents in the manor of Skene, extending into Staffordshire and Derbyshire(*b*), which he, John King, afterwards assigned to Henry Sacheverell. Be this as it may, Sir John King, the individual before alluded to, was eminently conspicuous in extending the Eng-

(*a*) Chancery Pleadings, England, *temp.* Eliz.

(*b*) Calendary of Inquis. and Pleadings in Duchy of Lancaster.

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lish law and Royal authority over Ireland in the time of Elizabeth; and accordingly were his services promptly remembered by her successor(*a*). In the first year of James's reign he was appointed Clerk of the Crown in Chancery; had a grant of various lands in the Counties of Down, Meath, Westmeath, Dublin, Louth, and Kildare, with a reversionary grant of the Abbey of Boyle, and certain parcels of its possessions, as well as of those of the monasteries of Cong, Ballintubber, and Ballinasmall, in the province of Connaught, and those of St. John's of Athy, and the rectory of Donoughmore. In the following year he passed patent for the Priory of Knock, with all its appurtenances (465 acres), with sundry tithes and altarages, a grant of two fairs and a market at Boyle, and similar privileges at Cong, and lastly, a lease for twenty-one years of certain spiritual and temporal rights in Ulster; two days after which latter grant his Majesty, by royal letter, directed that, "in consideration of the good, true, and faithful service which Sir John King had performed in Ireland," he should receive an allocation of £50 in value, out of concealed lands held in fee-farm; by virtue whereof three patents, in 1605, 1606, and 1608, respectively, conveyed to him sixteen quarters of land in the counties of Clare, Desmond, Kerry, Limerick, Sligo, Tipperary, Dublin, Meath, Westmeath, Wicklow, King's County, Cork, Cavan, Roscommon, Mayo, Kildare, Waterford, Wexford, Galway, Longford, and Leitrim. In 1606, he and his wife Catherine, hereafter mentioned, being seised in fee of the manor of Rathwyre, in the County of Westmeath, sold it to the Earl of Clanrickard, immediately after which he had a grant of that of Belgard, extending into the counties of Dublin and Meath, with several rectories and tithes, described as then late parcels of the monastery of Clonard, County Meath, and of the priory of Ballindrohid, County Cork. In 1609, on the surrender of Sir James Fullerton, he was appointed Muster-Master General, and Clerk of

(*a*) The principal materials of the ensuing portion of this Memoir have been derived from Lodge's excellent "Peerage of Ireland."

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the Check, of the armies and garrisons, for life, upon which advancement, it being then a place of great trust, he was knighted at Whitehall, and called into the Privy Council. In 1611 he obtained from the Crown a Wednesday market, and a fair at Tulsk, with court of *pie poudre*, and the usual tolls; and in 1613 and 1615, represented the County of Roscommon in parliament. Sir John, at this time, resided at Bagotrath, near Dublin, the ancient fief of Robert le Bagot, and in that castle, the struggle for whose possession, a few years afterwards, led on the memorable battle of Rathmines. In May, 1615, he was appointed of council for the charge of Munster, and in the June following was commissioned, with Sir Thomas Rotheram, and the rest of the Council of Connaught, for the civil government and administration of justice in that province, during the absence of the president and vice-president. In the following year he was selected of the commission for fiating grants of escheated lands in Ulster, in virtue of which, and as a co-trustee, he had a grant, jointly with Sir Adam Loftus, of various manors, castles, lands, messuages, mills, granges, loughs, rectories, fisheries, weirs, markets, fairs, chiefries, &c. In 1617, he was appointed with the chief judges on the Commission of the Court of Wards in Ireland. In the November of that year he had a more distinct and ample grant of the Abbey of Boyle and its possessions; and about the same time he conveyed the rectory of Killyan, in the County of Meath, as his fee, to certain family uses. In 1618 His Majesty was pleased, "in acceptance of his many and faithful services, whereof he had not only received good testimony from Ireland, but also from his council in England, who had been eye-witnesses thereof," so far to extend his favours, as to direct that his eldest son, Robert, might partake thereof; and he had accordingly, in the April of that year, a grant of the office of Muster-Master General, &c. In January, 1619, Sir John, "in consideration of good, true, faithful, and acceptable service," had a very extensive confirmatory patent of the ambit and precinct of the abbey of Boyle, with the appurtenances, mills, waters, watercourses, mill-heads, and all the land sover which the manor of Boyle extends, together with the numerous eel-weirs that had

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appertained to the abbey, and a moiety of certain tithes as hereafter mentioned in the General History, with courts leet and baron, and other privileges, within that manor. In the same year he was appointed a commissioner for the plantation of Longford County, and the territory of Ely O'Carrol in the King's County; in 1621 was constituted a Receiver of the fines of the Court of Wards, and of all other fines payable upon Royal letters and patents, and in the same year had a grant of Corhawna (641A.), in the plantation of Leitrim. In 1624 he was, amongst other great officers of State, constituted an especial Commissioner and Guardian of the Peace in the provinces of Leinster and Ulster, while the Lord Deputy Falkland was making a journey in various parts of Ireland to oversee the plantations, and settle the government there. In the same year, according to the existing incidents of feudal tenures, he had a grant of the wardship and marriage of Lucas, the second Viscount Dillon, then aged fourteen years, and in 1625 was nominated on a commission to inquire into abuses in the army, with a view to their being early and effectively redressed. In August, 1630, he purchased from William, Earl of Meath, the estate of Nether-Whitacre in Warwickshire. Sir John had married Catherine, daughter of Robert Drury, who was the nephew of Sir William Drury, Lord Justice of Ireland, in 1578. She died in 1617, and he in 1636, having a short time previously made his will, wherein, as before mentioned, he described himself as "Sir John King, of the Close of the Cathedral Church of Lichfield," and directed, that if he died there, his body should be buried within that church, but if he died in Ireland, in the parish church of St. Michan, Dublin, near his late wife (nevertheless at the discretion of his executor), but without any unnecessary cost or charge; and, after providing for his children, he bequeathed to the bailiffs and citizens of Lichfield, for the use and benefit of the poor thereof, the sum of £20; to all his servants a year's wages, &c.; and he constituted his eldest son, Robert, executor and residuary legatee, who, in the exercise of the discretion given to him, directed the interment of his father within the abbey of Boyle. Sir John left issue by his said wife, six sons and three daughters. The sons were,

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1st. Sir Robert, his heir, of whom hereafter.

2nd. John King, who was appointed Clerk of the Hanaper, and who marrying Margaret, the daughter of Francis Edgeworth, Esq., had issue by her two sons, John and Francis:

1. John King was joined with his father in the Clerkship of the Hanaper in 1627, but afterwards, in the civil wars, attached himself to Cromwell's party, became a Major in that service, and was, by Sir Charles Coote, the Lord President of Connaught, appointed, on behalf of the Parliament, to conclude the Articles of Agreement for the surrender of Galway, which Articles he signed on the 5th of April, 1652.

2. Francis King, styled of Rathdooney, County Sligo, married Susanna, daughter of Edmund Southwell, of Castle Mattress, in the County Limerick, Esq., and had issue four sons and two daughters, viz.: Captain Francis; John of Boyle (who, in 1672, did service in Lord Kingston's troop, and died in that year unmarried); Robert; William (who left no issue); Mary (married to Captain Robert Ffolliott); and Catherine. Captain Francis, described as of Knocklough, the eldest of these children, and to whom his father left all his estate in the County Sligo, "fallen to him by lot, in satisfaction of his debenture for service in Ireland," was sheriff of the County Sligo in 1677, in two years previous to which he married Magdalen, daughter of Thomas Guyhin of Ballyconnel, County Cavan, and had by her three sons and two daughters, viz.: Francis, the eldest son; Robert and John, who both died unmarried; Mary and Susanna, the latter of whom married, in 1713, Robert Savage of Dublin. The aforesaid Francis, the eldest son, married, in 1698, Dorcas, eldest daughter of William Ormsby of Annagh, County Sligo, and dying in 1708, left issue by her (who re-married with Edward Jackson of the same county, Esq.), two sons and one daughter, viz., William, of Annagh-Ibanagher, otherwise Kingsborough, in the County of Sligo (who dying at Douglas in the Isle of Man, in 1736, unmarried, was buried at Abbey Boyle); Robert, who also died unmarried; and Mary, first married to Henry Smyth of Dublin, Esq., and secondly to Edward Smyth, attorney-at-law.

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3rd. Roger, who died young.

4th. Edward, the fourth son of Sir John King and Catherine, his lady, born in 1612, was baptized by his namesake, the Right Reverend Edward King, Bishop of Elphin (before noticed in this Memoir). He received the earlier elements of his education in Trinity College, Dublin, whence he removed to Cambridge, where he became the fellow-collegian and intimate friend of Milton, and appears to have been possessed of talents and acquirements not overrated by the friendship of the immortal bard. In 1633, this Edward King was a Fellow of Christ Church College, Cambridge. In August, 1637, he left the scene of his academic honours and friendships, to revisit his native country, but was unfortunately drowned on his passage from Chester, at the early age of twenty-five. So universal was the regret felt for his untimely fate, that immediately after, a volume of poems in Greek, Latin, and English, entitled "Justa Edouardo King naufrago," was printed and circulated at Cambridge in honour of his memory. Those in Greek are three in number, one by Henry More, the great Platonic theologist, and then, or soon after, a Fellow of Christ College; those in Latin are nineteen; and the English elegies thirteen in number; the last of these being the well-known Monody of Lycidas, by Milton, and inscribed with his initials. In this tribute of friendship, the immortal bard thus touchingly laments his friend:

"Yet once more, oh ye laurels! and once more,
Ye myrtles brown with ivy never sere!
I come to pluck your berries harsh and crude,
And, with forced fingers rude,
Shatter your leaves before the mellowing year.
Bitter constraint and sad occasion dear
Compel me to disturb your season due;
For Lycidas is dead—dead ere his prime—
Young Lycidas!—and hath not left his peer.
Who would not sing for Lycidas? He knew
Himself to sing and build the lofty rhyme.
He must not float upon his watery bier

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Unwept, and welter to the parching wind,
Without the meed of some melodious tear.

* * * * * * *

For we were nursed upon the self-same hill,
Fed the same flock by fountain, shade and rill;
Together both, ere the high lawns appeared,
Under the glimmering eyelids of the morn,
We drove a field; and both together heard,
What time the gray fly winds her sultry horn
Battening our flocks with the fresh dews of night,
Oft till the even star bright
Towards Heaven's descent had sloped his burnished wheel.

* * * * * * * *

But, oh! the heavy change! now thou art gone!—
Now thou art gone!—and never must return.
Thee shepherds—thee the woods and desert caves,
With wild thyme and the gadding vine o'ergrown,
And all their echoes mourn;
The willow and the hazle copses green
Shall now no more be seen,
Fanning their joyous leaves to thy soft lays.

* * * * * * * *

Where were ye, Nymphs! when the remorseless deep
Closed o'er the head of your Lord, Lycidas?
For neither were you playing on the steep,
Where the old Bards, the famous Druids, lie,
Nor on the shaggy top of Mona high,
Nor yet, where Deva spreads her wizard stream,—
Ah! me, I fondly dream!—

* * * * * * *

Weep no more, woful shepherds! weep no more,
For Lycidas, your sorrow, is not dead;
Sunk though he be beneath the watery floor,
So sinks the day-star in the ocean bed,
And yet anon repairs his drooping head,
And tricks his beams, and with new spangled ore

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Flames in the forehead of the morning sky;
So Lycidas sunk low but mounted high,
Through the dear might of him that walked the waves;
Where, other groves and other streams along,
With nectar pure his oazie locks he laves,
And hears the unexpressive nuptial song.
There entertain him all the Saints above,
In solemn troops and sweet societies,
That sing, and singing in their glory move,
And wipe the tears for ever from his eyes."
&c. &c. &c.

5th. Henry King, the next brother to this Edward, was a contributor of one Latin and another English elegy to the above volume. Of the latter, the following few lines must suffice:

"Let me, poor, senseless dead, alone
Sit and expect my resurrection,
To follow him; two sorrows sure will do,
That he is dead—that I am not dead too—!
Yet dead I'm once already, for in him
I lost my best life, which I did esteem
Far beyond nature's." —

6th. Adam was the sixth son of Sir John King and Catherine, his lady, of whom nothing particular is recorded. Their three daughters were: 1. Anne, married to William Lord Charlemont, who being, by his death in 1640, left a widow, underwent great hardships in the time of the ensuing civil war, from which only on petition to the Commissioners, in 1653, did she obtain any release.—2. Margaret, who was the second wife of Sir Gerald Lowther, and to whom one of the elegies in the "Justa" above-mentioned (written by John Hayward, Chancellor of the Cathedral church of Lichfield, and a resident canon), is especially addressed. In it she is described as having formerly resided in a house immediately adjoining St. Chad's church, at Lichfield, being the locality assigned by her father, Sir John, in his own will, as his early domicile. Of herself Hayward adds:

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"Though I confess you did most rarely paint,
You were no hypocrite, but a true saint;
Nature hath given you beauty of the skin,
And grace hath made you beautiful within:
Like 'a king's daughter,' nature, grace, and name
Concurring all to raise your virtuous fame.
Which may you long enjoy below, till Jove
Call you to your blest pedigree above."

She died in 1658, and was interred in St. Michan's, Dublin, where, it will be remembered, her father had directed he should be buried, if he died in Ireland.—3. Dorothy, who was married to Arthur Moore, of Dunmoghan, County Louth, of the family ancestry of the Marquess of Drogheda. The will of Lady Lowther suggests a fourth sister, leaving, as she does, a legacy thereby to her "sister Urny, *alias* King," but no other trace of her appears.

Sir Robert, the eldest son of Sir John, was, during his father's life-time, knighted, in August, 1621, by King James, at the Castle of Tutbury, in Staffordshire. In 1639 he represented the borough of Boyle in Parliament, and in November, 1641, was made Constable of its castle, with an allowance for maintaining forty Protestant warders there, against any apprehended attack of the insurgents. In the following year he distinguished himself at the battle of Ballintobber, where the victory, won for the Parliament, was attributed to his extraordinary courage, and the gallantry of his independent troop, as may be seen fully detailed in Borlase's "History of the Irish Rebellion." In May, 1643, he was one of the deputation, appointed to present to His Majesty a bill authorizing prompt payments for the reduction of "the Irish rebels," and to pray the Royal assent thereto; and in 1645 he was one of the Commissioners empowered by Parliament to manage affairs in the Province of Ulster, where they arrived in the October following, with provisions, ammunition, and £20,000, towards prosecuting the war against the insurgents. He at this time, as it would appear from Carte, meditated the surprisal of Drogheda, but afterwards abandoned that design. In 1647 he was one of the Commissioners intrusted to receive the sword from the Marquess of Ormonde, which, together with the charge of the

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metropolis, was delivered into their hands. As one of the trustees for Trinity College, Dublin, he was, in October, 1651, directed, with others, to take a true account of its revenues and disbursements, and an inventory of its moveables, especially its library, taking care for the preservation of those books that remained, and the discovery of such as were embezzled. He had a similar direction as to the books of the Heralds' Office, with orders to take security from the heralds-at arms, to return them to the use of the public, when they should be required. In 1653 he was appointed an overseer of the poor, within the city and vicinity of Dublin. In 1654, he and Sir John Temple were elected to represent the Counties of Leitrim, Sligo, and Roscommon, in Cromwell's Parliament, at Westminster, and in 1655 he had an order for satisfaction of arrears due to him by the State, to the amount of £1,224, out of the Barony of Clanwilliam, or Liberties of Limerick. In April, 1657, he made his will, by which he devised his estates, with certain exceptions, to his eldest son, John, and soon after died at Cecil House, Strand, London. He had married Frances, daughter of Sir Henry Ffolliott, the first Lord Ffolliott, of Ballyshannon (who died in 1637, and was buried in Abbey-Boyle), and by her had issue, four sons and six daughters. On her decease he married Sophia, daughter of Sir William Zouch, and widow of Sir Edward Cecil, Viscount Wimbleton, by whom he had two daughters, Sophia, who died unmarried, and Elizabeth, married to Sir Thomas Barnadiston, of Kelton Hall, in Suffolk. Sir Robert's children, by his first wife, Frances Ffolliott, were:

1st. Sir John King; who, while his cousin-german and namesake before mentioned was an officer in the Parliamentary service, was himself first a Captain and afterwards a Major-General in the king's army; in which stations his services were very considerable, particularly his relief of the Castle of Elphin after about fifteen weeks' siege; the besiegers, under Captain Ormsby and other commanders, on his appearance, retreating from before the town. After Cromwell's death, having shewn himself very zealous for the restoration of King Charles the Second, he was, upon the occurrence of that event, one of the first advanced to the

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peerage of Ireland, by the title of Baron Kingston of Kingston(*a*), his patent bearing date on the fourth of September, 1660; and in the March following he was appointed one of the Commissioners of the Court of Claims for the settlement of Ireland. In May, 1661, he took his seat in the House of Lords, and in the following month was selected as one of those deputed to advise His Majesty on the state of Ireland, "for the service of the Crown, the good of the Church, and the speedy and happy settlement of the kingdom." In April, 1666, he was constituted, with Lord Berkeley, joint President of Connaught, and, in the May following, sole governor of that province. In 1674 he had a grant by patent of a yearly pension of £838. It was also provided, by the Act of Settlement, that all such forfeited lands, as were set out in Ireland to his Lordship or his father, or which were purchased by them, and set out to, or possessed by them, previous to 1659, should be confirmed to him in fee, and his arrears satisfied, with divers other grants and benefits, which were confirmed to him by the Act of Explanation. He died in 1676, leaving issue two sons, then in their minority, viz., Robert and John, successive lords of Kingston. Their mother, Catherine, having been the daughter of Sir William Fenton of Mitchelstown, in the County Cork, and he dying without issue male, that estate vested in this family, viz., first in Robert King, the eldest son of Sir John, and the second Baron Kingston, who, after being educated in Oxford, even before King James was voted by the convention of the Estates of England to have abdicated, espoused in Ireland the party that would have opposed his sovereignty there. Accordingly when, in January, 1688, the "Enniskilling-men" were preparing for coming events, M'Carmick writes: "All this time we had frequent correspondence with my Lord of Kingston, who had raised a very considerable force, both of horse and foot, in the Counties of Roscommon and Sligo, and had made Sligo his garri-

(*a*) There was at this time an existing *Earldom* of Kingston in the English Peerage; it was in the family of Pierrepont, and derived from Kingston-upon-Hull.

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son, which he endeavoured, with all diligence, to fortify, with a firm resolution of holding out that place against all opposition; but, ammunition being scarce with him, and receiving, in February, encouragement from Colonel Lundy, who at that time commanded all, to desert Sligo and march his men to Derry, where he should be accommodated with provisions for his men, and forage for his horses, he left Sligo, and marched as far as Ballyshannon, towards Derry. He had no sooner left his garrison than the enemy was in it; but the brave gentleman met assurance at Ballyshannon that there was not any forage to be met at Derry for his horses, and was therefore constrained to continue where he was, quartering his men along the frontier, upon the north side of Lough Earne." He was in 1689 selected, with Captain Chidley Coote, to command the gentry of the County Sligo, that had associated to support King William, as more particularly narrated in the subsequent general history of the Barony of Boyle, and was therefore attainted in James's Parliament of Dublin. In 1690 he commanded a regiment at the taking of Carrickfergus, and on the reduction of the kingdom, took his seat in the House of Peers, in 1692. In the following year he executed conveyances for the establishment and endowment of a College and Alms House at Boyle, as stated hereafter, in the history of that locality. In 1698 he married Margaret, one of the daughters and co-heiresses of William Harbord, of Grafton Park, Nottinghamshire, Vice Treasurer of Ireland, and afterwards Ambassador to the Ottoman Porte.—This Lord Robert, dying without issue, in 1693, was succeeded by his only brother, John, the third Baron Kingston, who had abjured the Established Church, was constituted a member of King James's Privy Council, and, following his fortunes into France, was outlawed, but pardoned in 1694, and took his seat in the House of Peers in 1697. He married Margaret, daughter of Florence O'Cahan, died in 1727, and was buried at the Temple Church, London, leaving issue two sons: Robert, who died at Eton School; James, his successor; and two daughters, Catherine, married to George Butler, of Ballyragget, and Sophia, to Brettridge Badham, Member of Parliament for Rathcormuck. James, the fourth Lord Kings-

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ton, took his seat in Parliament in 1728 ; he married twice, but leaving no male issue, the title became extinct on his death in 1761; while his estates passed to his only surviving daughter, the Lady Margaret King, who married the Right Honourable Colonel Richard Fitzgerald, of Mount Ophaley, County Kildare, and their only daughter and heiress, Caroline, as hereafter mentioned, became the wife of the Honourable Robert King, Viscount Kingsborough, whereby the families and estates of both lines were reunited.—Although the noble inheritors of Mitchelstown do not immediately connect with the localities of this history, the above sketch of their descent and honours could not be properly omitted. Returning now to the succession of the family of Sir Robert King and Frances Ffolliott:

2nd. Henry King, their second son, graduated in All Souls' College, Oxford, during the time of the Commonwealth, and was afterwards made a Fellow thereof by the Visitors of that University.

3rd. Sir Robert King, of whom hereafter.

4th. William King, who, in 1660, was appointed to a captaincy by Charles the Second ; he had married a daughter of Sir John Temple, but died in 1662, without issue, and was buried in St. Michan's church, Dublin.

The six daughters of Sir Robert and Frances were : Catherine and Anne, who died young.—Mary, who married, first, William, son and heir of Sir Robert Meredyth, of Greenhills, County Kildare, Baronet, and secondly, William Earl of Denbigh and Desmond. She died before 1662, and was buried in St. Michan's church, Dublin.—Elizabeth died unmarried—and Anne, who married William Basil of Donnycarney, the Irish Attorney-General during the Protectorate. She died in February, 1652, and was also buried in St. Michan's.

Sir Robert, above mentioned as the third son of Sir Robert and Frances, received his education in All Souls' College, Oxford, of which he was chosen a Fellow in 1649. After acquitting himself there in the most distinguished manner, and receiving all the honours the University could confer, he travelled into France,

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whence he returned, upon the Restoration, a highly accomplished gentleman. He was created a Baronet in 1682, and, in the subsequent civil war, took an active part for the succession of King William, as evinced in his letters, two of which are printed *post*, in the History of the Barony of Boyle. When the contest was decided, and government restored, being then resident at Rockingham, he sat as one of the representatives of the County Roscommon in the first Parliament of the successful sovereign, held in Dublin in 1692. He married Frances, only surviving daughter and heiress of Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Gore, of Magherabeg, County Donegal, and left issue by her, four sons and four daughters. Of the sons, Robert died young, John and Henry were successive baronets, as hereafter mentioned, and another younger, Robert, married Frances, eldest daughter of Doctor Edward Smith, Bishop of Down and Connor. The daughters were: Mary, married first to Chidley Coote, of Cootehall, County Roscommon, and afterwards to Henry Dering, of Dublin; Malina died young; Elizabeth married the Reverend Essex Edgeworth, of Temple-Michael, in the County Longford, by whom she had issue; and the fourth daughter died unmarried. Sir Robert died in 1708, having by his will sought, to a certain extent, to realize the design of his nephew, Robert Lord Kingston, for the establishment of a free school or college at Boyle, but family settlements created insurmountable obstacles to its effective endowment(*a*).

(*a*) During the time of this Sir Robert, some individuals flourished of the name of King, of whom, although not immediately connected with this line, some short notices may impart more general interest to the Memoir.—Archbishop William King, of an ancient descent in the North of Scotland, educated at Dungannon school, graduated in Trinity College, became an active instrument in promoting the recognition of the Prince of Orange, immediately after the battle of the Boyne was appointed by Royal letter to the See of Derry, and was, in 1702, translated thence to the Archbishopric of Dublin, which he enjoyed for twenty-seven years, when, dying at his palace of St. Sepulchre, he was buried

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Sir John King, the second son of Sir Robert, succeeded him in the baronetcy. In his father's life-time, in 1695, he represented the borough of Boyle in Parliament, and again in 1703, and the following years, jointly with his father; and, after his father's decease in 1708, jointly with his own brother Henry. In 1715, leaving his said brother continuing representative of Boyle, he was elected one of the members for the County of Roscommon, and so continued until his death. He married Elizabeth, eldest daughter of John Sankey, of Tenelick, County Longford, and co-heiress of her

in the north side of the churchyard of Donnybrook.—Peter, Lord King, Baron of Ockham, in Surrey, was nephew, in the maternal line, to the great John Locke. In 1708 he was chosen Recorder of the City of London, and knighted by Queen Anne. In 1714 he was appointed Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas; in May, 1725, created a peer by the above style; and in the same year constituted Lord High Chancellor. He died in 1734.—Sir John King, of London, descended from a family who came into England from France after the massacre of 1572, was a distinguished scholar while at Eton, graduated at Queen's College, Cambridge, was admitted to the Inner Temple in 1660, and appointed King's Counsel in 1674, at which time also he was knighted; his biographer states, that in the latter part of his life his professional fees amounted to from £40 to £50 per day. He died in 1677, and was buried in the Temple Church.—Sir Edward King, an eminent chemist and surgeon, in whose laboratory Charles the Second used frequently to amuse himself. He was the first physician who attended that monarch in his last illness, when he ventured to incur the then existing penalties, by bleeding his royal patron, but his prompt conduct was warmly approved by the Faculty.—A baronetcy was also at this period (in 1707), conferred on the Dorsetshire line of the King family, in the person of Sir Francis King.—Lastly may be mentioned Luke King, Esq. appointed, in 1680, Chief Remembrancer of the Court of Exchequer in Ireland.

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brother; but dying in 1720, without issue by her, Sir John was succeeded by his said brother,

Sir Henry King, the third Baronet, who so represented Boyle, and subsequently the County of Roscommon in Parliament, and was sworn of the Privy Council in 1733; he married Isabella, sister of Richard, Viscount Powerscourt, and died in 1740(*a*), leaving issue by her three sons and five daughters.—The sons were: 1. Sir Robert, the fourth Baronet, hereafter noticed. 2. Sir Edward, advanced to the Earldom of Kingston in 1768; while 3. Henry, of Belleek, County Mayo, born in 1733, represented the Borough of Sligo in Parliament, and was a member of the Privy Council in Ireland. He married the eldest daughter of Paul Annesley Gore, Esq.—The daughters were: Eleanor, married to William Stewart, of Killimoone, County Tyrone, Esq., who represented that county in 1747; Frances, married to Hans Widman Wood, of Rosmead, County Westmeath, Esq.; Isabella, to

(*a*) In the time of these brother baronets occur two individuals of this family name worthy of some recollection.—Doctor William King, an ingenious writer and eminent civilian, was appointed, about 1702, Judge of the High Court of Admiralty in Ireland, and Vicar-General to the Primate. His literary labours were not less productive than talented. He died in 1712, and was buried in Westminster Abbey.—Gregory King, an heraldic writer, a native, like some of the members of the family in the text, of Lichfield, passed much of his early life in Staffordshire. In 1675, he completed and engraved, on his own account, a map of Westminster, on the scale of one hundred feet to an inch. In two years afterwards was created Rouge Dragon, when at unemployed hours he designed a map of Staffordshire. He assisted Sir Richard St. George in his Visitations of 1681, &c., and, having been consulted about the burial of Charles the Second, took a part in the publication of the ceremony with Mr. Sandford, Lancaster Herald, who afterwards resigned his tabard to him. Gregory King was often subsequently employed in foreign installations. He died in 1712, and was buried in the Church of St. Benedict, Paul's Wharf.

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Thomas Earl of Howth; Anne, to John Knox, of Castlerea, County Sligo; and Elizabeth, who died in 1737, unmarried.

After this enumeration of the issue of Sir Henry King by the Lady Isabella Wingfield, it must be here observed, that from this female line, the above issue and their descendants claim lineal, legitimate, and unbroken descent from the victor Plantagenet of Poictiers and Cressy, by links of succession in the maternal line, authenticated and illustrated in history, acknowledged in the royal genealogies and books of peerage, and each capable of the best legal confirmation, the succession being thus:

Edward the Third had, by his Queen Philippa, John of Gaunt, his fourth son, ancestor of the Earls of Worcester and Dukes of Beaufort, and who, dying in 1399, left issue by his third wife (Catherine, daughter of Sir Peter Roet, Knight, and relict of Sir Otho de Swynford, Knight), a daughter, Joan Beaufort, who married Ralph Neville, of Roby, constituted Earl of Westmoreland and Earl Marshal of England, and who became the ancestor of the Earls of Warwick, and of the Lords Abergavenny. He died in 1426, leaving issue by her, Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury, his eldest son, who married Alice, daughter and heiress of Thomas Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, and had issue by her a daughter, Catherine, who married William Bonville, Lord Bonville and Harrington, who was beheaded after the second battle of St Albans (1461). After his death, this Lady Catherine married Lord Hastings, from which alliance sprung the Earls of Huntingdon, those of Moira, and the Marquesses of Hastings. She had, however, by her said first husband, a daughter and heiress, Cicely, who became the second wife of Thomas Grey, of Groby, Marquess of Dorset. Dorothy, the eldest daughter of that marriage, was the second wife of Robert, Lord Willoughby, who died in 1522, leaving issue by her, Elizabeth, their eldest daughter, who married John Powlett, second Marquess of Winchester; he died in 1576, leaving Lady Mary, his eldest daughter, who became the wife of Henry, the second Lord Cromwell, who died in 1596, leaving issue by her, Edward, his son and heir, the third Baron Cromwell, who exchanged his English estates with Blount, Lord Mountjoy,

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for those of Lecale, in the County Down. This Lord Cromwell married Frances, daughter of William Rugge, of Filmington, in the County of Norfolk, and died in 1607; his eldest son Thomas was afterwards advanced in the Irish peerage, by the titles of Viscount Lecale and Earl of Ardglas. Lord Edward Cromwell also left by his said wife a daughter, Anne, who intermarried with Sir Edward Wingfield, of Powerscourt, Knight, and had issue by him, Lewis Wingfield, Esq., their third son, but whose line, on the failure of the elder, inherited the estates of Powerscourt by survivorship. Anne died in 1636, as did her husband in two years afterwards; Lewis intermarried with Sidney, daughter of Sir Paul Gore, of Manor Gore, County Donegal, Baronet, by whom he had Edward, his son and heir, who married Eleanor, daughter of Sir Arthur Gore, of Newtown-Gore, County Mayo, and died at Powerscourt House in William-street, Dublin, in 1728; his eldest daughter, Isabella, was the lady whose marriage with Sir Henry King necessitated the last paragraph. Her brother, Richard Wingfield, was thereupon introduced to the representation of Boyle, while Sir Henry King sat as one of the members for the County Roscommon. This Richard was afterwards elevated to the peerage as Viscount Powerscourt. It but remains to say, in reference to this portion of the maternal pedigree of the present noble representatives of the family of King, that it has been solemnly proved at the Heralds' Office, London, and was so officially certified.

Sir Robert King, the fourth Baronet, and eldest son of the above marriage, born in 1724, succeeded his father in his honours and estates; and, after the example of his grandfather and namesake, devoted himself in early life to foreign travel, on his return from which he was, in 1745, chosen the representative in Parliament of the Borough of Boyle; and in 1748 was created Baron of Kingsborough, with remainder to the heirs male of his body, by which title he took his seat in Parliament in 1749. The preamble of his patent commences: "Whereas our trusty and well-beloved Sir Robert King, of Rockingham, in the County Roscommon, is descended from an ancient and illustrious family, always

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approved for their loyalty and courage, for the many eminent services by which they have, from time to time, remarkably contributed, not only to the reducing of several rebellions in our kingdom of Ireland, but also to the reformation of our subjects there to a state of civility and order; many of whom have been, heretofore, for their public merit, distinguished by our royal progenitors, by grants of honours and also of lands and possessions of ample and large extent: and whereas the said Sir Robert King has now, in his early youth, already discovered extraordinary endowments of mind, together with a most disinterested zeal for our honour, and the welfare of his country, We," &c., &c. He was afterwards appointed Custos Rotulorum of the County of Roscommon, but dying unmarried in 1755, his peerage became extinct, while the estates devolved upon his next brother.

Sir Edward King, the fifth baronet, born in 1726, represented the County of Roscommon in the Parliaments of 1749 and 1761; and by patent of 1764, reciting the extinction of the former peerages of Kingston and Kingsborough, His Majesty, "deeming the said Sir Edward King worthy to have the nobility of his family renewed in his person, and being well assured of his zeal and attachment to the Crown and Government," advanced him to the peerage, by the title of Baron Kingston, of Rockingham, with limitation to the heirs male of his body. In 1766 he was created Viscount Kingsborough, and in 1768 yet further advanced in the peerage to the dignity of Earl of Kingston. He married, in 1732, Jane, daughter of Thomas Caulfield, of Donamon, County Roscommon, Esq., died in 1797(*a*), and was buried in Boyle

(*a*) At this time flourished Sir Richard King, a distinguished naval commander. Born in 1730, he, when but eight years old, accompanied his maternal uncle, Commodore Barnett, Commander in Chief in the Mediteranean, and afterwards in the East Indies. On the commencement of hostilities with Spain, Lord Anson particularly recommended him (being then Captain King), as an officer on whom he could depend, to convey the earliest intelligence of that event to the East Indies; and he had the good fortune to

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church, beside his wife, who had died in 1784. Their issue was three sons and four daughters:

1. Robert, his heir, hereafter mentioned.
2. Henry, died in 1735, without issue.
3. William, died in 1762, also without issue.

Of the daughters, Lady Jane, the eldest, married, in 1772, Sir Laurence Parsons, the distinguished author of the "Defence of Irish History," afterwards created, in 1795, Viscount Oxmantown, and in 1806, Earl of Rosse; the only issue of that marriage was Lady Frances, who, in 1799, intermarried, as hereafter mentioned, with Viscount Lorton. The second daughter of Earl Edward was Lady Eleanor Elizabeth, who died in 1822, unmarried; the third, Lady Isabella Letitia; and the youngest, Lady Frances, who, in 1803, intermarried with Thomas Tenison, of Castle Tenison, County Roscommon, Esq., of whose family a notice will be found in a subsequent section of this work.

Robert, the second Earl of Kingston, married, in 1769, Caroline, only daughter of the Right Honourable Colonel Richard Fitz-Gerald, of Mount Ophaley, County Kildare, by Lady Margaret King, the only child and heiress of James, the fourth Baron Kingston, by whom (who died in 1823) he had issue six sons and five daughters. The sons were:

make a remarkably expeditious passage to India, which, if he had not effected, the expedition to Manilla must have failed, as the squadron arrived there only a few days before the changing of the monsoon. In 1779 he was sent second officer in command to the East Indies, and in the following year was promoted to the rank of Commodore, in which station he continued during the whole of the war, and was engaged in all the actions with the French squadron. In 1780 he was knighted; in 1784 promoted to the rank of Rear Admiral of the White; in 1790, appointed Commander in Chief in the Downs; in 1792 was created a baronet, with a succession of honours and yet higher promotions, until, in 1799, he became Admiral of the White, soon after which he died.

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1st. George, late Earl of Kingston, who was taken prisoner at Wexford by the Irish rebels in 1798. In 1821, he obtained a patent of peerage as of the United Kingdom, and having, in 1794, married Helene, only daughter of Stephen, first Earl of Mountcashel, he had issue by her three sons: 1. Edward, Viscount Kingsborough, a nobleman distinguished for his literary acquirements, but who died in 1837, unmarried; 2. Robert, now Earl of Kingston; 3. James, barrister-at-law; and two daughters: Lady Helena Caroline (who in 1829 married Philip Davies Cooke, Esq., of Gwysaney, in Flintshire, and Owston Hall, Yorkshire, of the ancient line of the Very Reverend John Cooke, who was Dean of York in 1452), and Lady Adelaide Charlotte, who was married, in 1834, to Charles Tankerville Webber, Esq., barrister-at-law.

2nd. Robert Edward, second son of the second Earl of Kingston, was born in 1773. At the age of nineteen he entered the army in the 27th, or Enniskillen Regiment of Foot, obtained a majority in the course of two or three years, and soon after a Lieutenant Colonelcy in the 127th Regiment of Foot. In 1801 he was constituted full Colonel, Major-General in 1808, Lieutenant-General in 1813, and a full General in 1830; during which successive promotions (having distinguished himself as a military officer in the 1st battalion of Grenadiers, at the capture of Martinique, St. Lucia, and Guadaloupe, in the West Indies, especially during two campaigns in the latter island, and in covering the retreat from Point-a-Petre, in which action he was struck by a spent ball), he was, in 1800, created Baron Erris, of Boyle, and in 1806 Viscount Lorton. He is also Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the County Roscommon, having been the first appointed to that high office; but superior even to the exaltation that Royal honours, unsullied lineage, or military fame, could confer upon him, is the meed of praise that he has earned as a resident influential nobleman, in the centre of his own picturesque and cultivated manor, with a happy and peaceful tenantry around him. In 1799 his Lordship was married, as before suggested, to Lady Frances Parsons, only daughter and heiress of the first Earl of Rosse, who died in 1841, leaving behind her memorials of active

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charity that will not be forgotten. Lord Lorton had issue by her:

Two sons—1. Robert (who in 1829 intermarried with Anne, sister of Sir Robert Gore Booth, by whom he has issue. 2. Laurence Harman King Harman (who in 1837 intermarried with Mary, daughter of the late R. Johnstone, Esq., of Alua, by whom he also has issue). And four daughters: 1. Jane, married to Anthony Lefroy, Esq., Member of Parliament for the County of Longford, and son of the Honourable Baron Lefroy. 2. Eleanor, who died young. 3. Caroline, married in 1827 to Sir Robert Gore Booth, died in 1828; and 4. Frances, married in 1834 to the Reverend Charles Leslie, son of the present Bishop of Kilmore (a cousin of the Duke of Wellington, and a descendant of the noble house of Balquhuir, in Aberdeenshire). This prelate's brother was the representative of the County of Monaghan in seven successive parliaments (as is his nephew in the present). Lady Frances died in the year after her marriage.

3rd. Edward King, the third son of Earl Robert, was one of the representatives for the County Roscommon, in the first Imperial Parliament of 1802. He embraced the naval profession, was a midshipman in the *Invincible* at the victory obtained by Lord Howe over the French fleet in 1794; afterwards, signalizing himself in many other engagements, rose to the rank of Post Captain, and died in the command of the *Alexendria* frigate at Barbadoes.

4th. Sir Henry King, the fourth son of Earl Robert, was born in 1776, received, at Eton and Harrow schools, the rudiments of an education which he perfected in Exeter College, Oxford, and entered the military service in 1794. In 1797 he distinguished himself in the active scenes that took place in St. Domingo, until the evacuation of the Mole; in 1799, he was severely wounded in action in Holland, and again in the unfortunate attack upon Buenos Ayres in 1806. In July, 1809, he landed at Lisbon in command of the 2nd battalion of the 5th, a corps afterwards so celebrated in the Peninsular War for its discipline and prowess; in the critical conflict on the heights of Busaco his vigi-

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lance and ardour were eminently evinced; in 1811 he commanded at the battles of Fuentes d'Onoro and Badajos. In the respective years of 1822, 1826, and 1830, he was returned as one of the members for the County of Sligo; in 1835 was appointed a Knight Companion of the Bath; and in 1838, obtained the rank of Lieutenant-General, but died in the following year at his seat near Windsor. He married first, in 1802, Mary, eldest daughter of the Honourable and Very Reverend Dean Hewitt, who was the son of Viscount Lifford, Lord High Chancellor of Ireland in 1767, a nobleman of ancient and honourable ancestry in Warwickshire. By this lady Sir Henry King had issue, three sons. 1. Henry, born in 1808, who has died without issue. 2. John Wingfield King, who entered the army in 1824, in the Northumberland Fusileers, obtained a Captaincy in 1831, and in the same year intermarried with Alicia, daughter of Chidley Coote, Esq. (by whom he has issue). 3. Edward Robert, who entered the army in 1826, in the 36th regiment of foot, and was promoted to a captaincy in 1832; and four daughters, viz.: Caroline, married in 1827 to John Odell of Carriglea, County Waterford, Esq.; Louisa Mary, married in 1837 to the Rev. Charles Leslie, eldest son of the Bishop of Kilmore (his second wife); Sydney Jane, married in 1835 to Henry Coe Coape, Esq.; and Alicia, lately married to Henry Hamilton O'Hara, of Crebilly, County Antrim, Esq.—Sir Henry, in 1832, married his second wife, Elizabeth, relict of J. Richardson, Esq., and aunt of the Countess of Lichfield, by whom he has left no issue.

5th. Reverend Richard Fitzgerald King, fifth son of Earl Robert, married, in 1800, Williamina, eldest daughter of the late William Ross, and by her has issue.

6th. John King, the sixth son, was, in 1805, appointed Secretary of Legation to the Elector of Wirtemburg. He died unmarried.

7th. James William, the youngest son of Earl Robert, was also distinguished in the navy. He received his first commission in 1804, and in 1809 was appointed to the command of the *Jason*, which ship bore the flag of the Duke of Clarence, when his Royal

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Highness escorted Louis XVIII. to the French shore. She subsequently conveyed the Emperor Alexander, the King of Prussia, and the Duchess of Oldenburgh, to Calais. In 1815, Captain King intermarried with Caroline, the daughter of the late Most Reverend Doctor Euseby Cleaver, Archbishop of Dublin, and niece of the Right Reverend Doctor William Cleaver, successively Bishop of Chester, Bangor, and St. Asaph. Captain King has issue by her, two sons and three daughters.

The daughters of Earl Robert were: Margaret, who intermarried with the late Earl of Mountcashel; Caroline, married in 1800 to the late General Morrison; Mary, married to George G. Meares, Esq., died in 1819; Jane Diana, married first to Count de Witzingerode, minister of the Elector of Wirtemburgh, and Knight of several orders,—secondly to Monsieur Ricci; and Louisa Eleanor, who in 1803 was married at the Court of Stutgard to the late Baron Spaen, the Batavian minister there, and who is now a widow.

Immediately adjoining Rockingham is the townland of Erris, from which Viscount Lorton took his before-mentioned early title of Baron. Here, on an eminence, near the residence of Captain Duckworth, is one of these circular ecclesiastical fortresses, so frequently met with, both in this country and in England. This exhibits a circular massy wall of uncemented stone, about eight feet and a half in thickness, widening in one part to twelve. The diameter of the enclosure measures about thirty feet, and it was evidently once surrounded by a fosse and mound, thus assimilating it in character to those of Cornwall, described by Borlase. At a short distance from this, on a higher land called Carrickmore (i. e. "the great rock"), is a similar, but much larger, and

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more perfect, circular enclosure, also of uncemented stone, and measuring in diameter upwards of 150 feet; the walls, in some places of very massy stone, are generally 12 feet in thickness, and in one place 16; there are now no traces of fosse or mound, but there are some as of the foundations of cells within it. There is another in the adjoining parish of Kill-bryan, on the townland of Keelogues. Thus encircled, the simple churches of Christ were, on the first efforts of piety, erected, and, while convenience or custom led to a preference of wood in their formation, it does appear, from several existing remains, that they were frequently defended, like those that here occur, with massy enclosures of stone. In those parts of Ireland, where they occur, they are generally called "casiols." Venerable Bede illustrates the use and motive of such buildings, and defines them to be ecclesiastical; one particularly alluded to by him, as erected in 684 by Cuthbert, an Irish Bishop of Lindisfarn, is described, like the above, as a round structure of four or five perches diameter, the wall of which was, on the outer side, somewhat higher than a man erect, while within, it was made in effect higher, by deepening the enclosed space, with a design of restraining the eyes and thoughts of the pious occupants from earthly objects and desires, to look only to heaven. This wall, he adds, was not built of hewn stone, or with mortar, but with rough stones of a huge size and the earth that was dug out of the enclosed space. "Within this circle," adds

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Bede, " were two structures, one an oratory for prayer, and the other for the ordinary uses of a dwelling"(*a*). There are several remains of such " casiols" over Ireland, and especially in this province ; one of monstrous unhewn stones, without cement, and capable of containing (as O'Flaherty describes its size) two hundred beeves, is found at Dun Ængus, in the greater isle of Aran, on a cliff over the sea, and a second in the middle isle. Tradition confirms the ecclesiastical use of this edifice, as that it was built by St. Endeus, at the close of the fifth century, around his little churches. There is another in the island of Inismurry, off the coast of Sligo, expressly called " the casiol," the enclosing wall there is also wholly without mortar, but the stones so admirably inserted into each other as to need none. It is from five to eight feet thick, and about ten feet high, containing within it some rude subterranean cells, and three stone chapels, but the latter appear of a more recent date than the rest of the workmanship. There is a very fine specimen of this species of building called cul-casiol, near the village of Kilmovee, in the County Mayo, and a similar, but much dilapidated structure, on the lands of Mr. Phillips, of Clonmore, in the same county, which imparts its generic name to the townland of Cara-Casiol. On the aforesaid townland of Erris is a well of ancient reverence called Tobber-na-driney, i. e. " the well of

(*a*) Bede, " Vita Cuthberti," c. 17.

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the black thorns," and near it stood a church, for the same reason styled Teampul-na-driney. All traces of this edifice have disappeared, but, in recently excavating its site, Captain Duckworth found, about two feet below the surface of the soil, a considerable portion of cut stone, which seemed to have belonged to the door and windows. A group of old trees, in a circle adjacent, evidently marks the situation and antiquity of the cemetery. On this townland is a fine quarry of black marble, exhibiting to the geologist not unfrequent specimens of fossils, and other petrefactions; cockles especially have been found, very perfectly developed, incrusted in the stone.

Between Erris and the river of Boyle, near a fall of that water, about a mile from the town, once stood the ancient Columbian house of Eas-mac-neirc (sometimes confounded with Inchmacnerin), of which many notices will be found in the subsequent history of the district. The walls of a small church, about 50 feet by 25, are all that now mark this once fine establishment. Below it, and nearer the river, surrounded by some very old ash trees, the ground having been accidentally laid open, a succession of those caves, so frequently met with in Ireland, has been exposed to view. The work of exfodiation was carried on under the immediate inspection of Captain Duckworth, who thus reports: "On clearing out the accumulated rubbish and fillings of ages, I found a room of 26 feet in length, connected with a similar apartment at one end, and

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at the other narrowing into a passage of five feet in extent, and in span at first about two feet and a half square, but gradually widening as it points in the direction of the river and church, until it opens into another room, measuring 18 feet in length by nine in its centre breadth, for it narrows at both ends. Within it a man can stand erect, and the whole is covered by three very large flags, wearing the appearance of a flat-bottomed boat turned upside down." These caves are all constructed without mortar, the archings being turned on geometric principles; the cells, most usually circular, are about five feet high, and as many in diameter, while the connecting galleries, of varying length, have their sides made of stones laid flat upon each other, and covered with flags, projecting gradually until closed by one range at top. The use, to which these structures were applied, is extremely doubtful, but, as they were evidently too small and narrow for the reception of human beings, they would seem rather designed for the convenient disposal of stores, arms, provisions, and other such warlike necessaries as were then of use, which in these places might be kept secure from the weather, ready for use, and inaccessible to plunderers. That they were not used for habitations is made more probable, by their having no passages for light or smoke, while their use as granaries is confirmed by Giraldus Cambrensis in his "Conquest of Ireland" (lib. ii. c. 17), where he says, that the natives of this province, when Connaught was invaded by

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Milo de Cogan, burned all before him, their townsand villages, as well as all the provisions, which they were unable to hide in their subterranean galleries, "quæ hypogeis subterraneis abscondere non poterant." Possibly, too, in cases of actual attack, these cavern passages and cells might be employed to shelter the women and children, and offer a *dernier resort* for the men when all else was hopeless; a last retreat, where a few might retard a multitude, and probably, by secret outlets, effect their ultimate escape. The "Antiquitates Celto-Scandinaviæ" (p. 14) seem to furnish a highly interesting testimony of this their application, and such, in the primitive times, may have been "the dens on the mountains, and caves and strongholds," which, as related in "Judges" (vi. 2), the children of Israel constructed, when the hand of Midian prevailed against then. It may also be remarked, that Tacitus(*a*) mentions caves as used among the Germans for granaries, as well as for places of retreat. Hirtius(*b*) speaks of the same in Africa; and their generality is more extensively established in King's "Munimenta Antiqua (vol. i. p. 45, &c.) In Ireland they are usually based on sand or gravel, so that no water can rest on them. A fine specimen is to be seen near Dublin within the hill of Knock-an-ard-ousk, "the hill of the high water," which rises immediately over the pictu-

(*a*) De Moribus Germanorum, c. xvi.
(*b*) De Bell. Africano, sect. 57.

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resquely situated village of Lucan; this is said to run a considerable distance under ground, linking in its course a series of little circular vaults. In removing some of the fine mould about this cave, several stone implements of war and husbandry, an ancient spur, and a piece of curiously carved bone, were discovered. The summit of this bold eminence is rounded into a fine rath, half of whose circumference is almost impregnable by nature, while the other half is defended by smooth, steep outworks of earth. In a hill near Castle Connor, in the County of Sligo, there is a yet more curious subterranean passage, running in a circle, and in its diameter opening on quadrangular chambers, built of vast arched stones. Ware, in his "Antiquities" has given a ground view of this latter cavern (Pl. I. No. 5). Those near Portaferry,—at Kilbixy,—and others, especially in the County Mayo, seem also referrible to this class, and Sampson, in his "Memoirs of Londonderry" (p. 330), mentions several as existing in that county.

The southern section of the parish of Boyle, in which all the scenes heretofore described occur, is further embellished by some fine funeral mounts, or "doos," as they are here sometimes termed, the word "*dua*" signifying, in Irish, a high mound. One of these is raised to a perpendicular height of about forty feet above an eminence called Knockmelliagh, situated within the demesne of Rockingham, and from the foot of which the annexed view was taken. It was once fossed, but the fosse is now scarcely tracea-

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Ardmaddan from Lough Mullagh

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ble. Another, and a finer specimen, gives name to Knockadoo, about five miles westward, and within this parish; it is about the same height as the last, but its fosse has been preserved very perfect, and is at present hedged on the outer bank. On its top, large stones, that seem to have been once circularly set, are now imbedded; the view of the surrounding country hence is very extensive, and two other similar mounds(*a*) are thence distinguishable at the south-east. On Knockadoo, a little below the mount, are traces of a large fort; while on another hill, immediately southward, is a distinct and noble fort, called Lis-na-draoi, i. e., "the fortified place of the Magi, or Druids." It is upwards of 100 feet in the diameter of its summit, and, by remains yet very discernible, is shewn to have had two fosses, the inner being about fourteen feet in width, the outer about 11. There are other forts in this section of the parish, three on Derrymaquirk, two on Lecarrow, one on Knockavroe, one on Letford's Park, two in Erris, &c.

On the portion of the parish north of the river are three forts, on the lands of Drumdoe; and here, close to the river, are situated the ruins of the church of Isselyn, the original parochial place of worship, before Boyle had risen to importance under the patronage of its noble proprietors. The road from Boyle to Isselyn points to Lough Gara, following up the course of the

(*a*) See of those Mounts, "History of the County of Dublin," p. 332, &c.

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river, from which it is in no instance far removed, although the water is frequently concealed by the inequalities of the surface. Some parts of this way are very steep, and there are considerable descents, as well as ascents, but the rise is, on the whole, towards the lake which lies much above Boyle; and the inequalities may be considered as the off-sets from the Curlew mountains, near the base of which the road runs. From the ascents very extensive prospects open, across the river, and towards the plains of Boyle; the town itself standing in the valley, with the river winding towards it; the church, surrounded by the old trees of the park, and the full feathering of new plantations, present a very favourable aspect. The old church of Isselyn stands on a knoll, terminating abruptly at the river; and from the massiveness of the walls, of large hewn stone, two feet and an half in thickness—their height, in detached fragments, about 20 feet—the extent of the area, the choir measuring 16 yards by 8, and the aisle about 25 by 8—it might be supposed to have been once a pile of architectural extent and beauty; but, while all the casings of windows and doors have been carried away, the style of the buildings appears even otherwise of an unassuming class. A large burial ground, still much preferred for the Roman Catholic population of Boyle, surrounds this ruined church, and many headstones and horizontal monuments record Mac Manuses, Mac Gowrans, and, above all, Mac Dermotts, as still claiming some proprietorship in

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the soil. There are no memorials, however, worthy of any especial notice. The oldest is within the ruins, and commemorates a Mr. James Johnston, who died in 1702.—At the foot of the knoll, occupied by these remains, is a quarry vein, which, when burned with a strong heat, affords excellent gypsum for cement, but English competition precludes its introduction into market in any way that could remunerate for the manufacture and carriage. The river here rushes over the rocks with considerable velocity, and at one place forms a small cascade; various mill-sites might be had hereabout, and the abundance and regularity of the supply of water obtainable from the lake, and the considerable falls, would amply maintain their operation.

An old, and now disused road, leads from Isselyn to the banks of that estuary, by which the superfluous waters of Lough Gara escape into the river of Boyle; off this at left, about half a mile from Isselyn, is a fort measuring 35 yards in diameter, and having its fosse still tolerably perfect. Beyond this, near Tinecarra, a bridle-road at right leads to the townland of Ballynamultagh, where is an immense cromlech; the incumbent stone, which is inclined westward, at an angle of about 45 degrees, is 15 feet in length by 11 in breadth; its greatest thickness is two feet and a half, its average eighteen inches. The head leans on three large boulders, over which it projects in a manner, that forms a species of what antiquarians term a Brehon chair, its foot being a little

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raised by a smaller rock. The generality of the cromlechs that survive in Ireland, like this, exhibit now no circle of erect stones; but such are often found, as if they were the outwork of the temple, and the channels or furrows, still traceable on most of the incumbent stones, make it probable that sacrifices, as of oxen, &c., might be offered upon them; but, whatever were the victims, the altar is itself thoroughly eastern and primitive. Such an altar "Noah builded unto the Lord;"—such an altar the Deity commanded, "If thou wilt make me an altar of stone, thou shalt not build it of hewn stone, for if thou lift up thy tool upon it, thou hast polluted it." The black mould and ashes, commonly dug up about these cromlechs, confirm the idea of their use as fire temples in the open air; nor should the circumstance of bones having been found under some few of them, as they are also found at the base of these enclosed fire temples, the round towers, militate against this conclusion, or induce a belief, that cromlechs were originally designed as mere funeral memorials. Such bones might have been those of the animals sacrificed, or, even if human, the rareness of the occurrence only illustrates the opinion, that the desire of being buried near places of worship, so prevalent in later ages, was even then partially acknowledged. The largest cromlech in Ireland is supposed to be that in the parish of Fiddown, County Kilkenny, described in the 16th Volume of the "Archæologia." It stands on one of the Walch Mountains, in the County Kilkenny,

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over the River Suir, between Carrick and Waterford, exhibiting a mass of most ponderous rock, not only raised but supported with geometrical accuracy, by an application of the doctrine of mechanic pressure truly surprising. Another at Ballymacscanlan, near Dundalk, gives similar evidence, that very powerful machinery must have been employed for its construction. How else, it has been asked, could those majestic rocks have been hewed from the bowels of the earth, transported over hills and valleys, and poised on such uniform inclinations. There is also a fine one at Brennanstown, near Dublin; a larger at Labacally, in the County Cork; and the neighbourhood of Baltinglas (which seems to derive its name "Beal-tinne-glas" from the rites of fire worship), and the Isles of Aran, abound with such remains. King shews that cromlechs, similar to the Irish, exist in Syria; and Armstrong, in his history of the very ancient people of Minorca, mentions several still to be found there, adding, that they are commonly called "altars of the Gentiles."

At a short distance to the north of this, on the east side of the memorable pass of Boherboy, a solitary, upright stone, commonly styled "the Governor's monument," is all that now remains of a large pile, which, according to an erroneous but popular opinion, is said to have marked the grave of Sir Conyers Clifford, who fell in the battle of the Curlews, as hereafter especially noticed in the historical section of this work; but the monument must with more

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correctness be identified with that erected by order of Lord Kingston, to commemorate the death of Captain Alexander Weir, in a skirmish there with the forces of General Sarsfield, as also hereafter mentioned. A detached portion of this parish, called Kilmacroy, the property of the Earl of Zetland, lies beyond Lough Ke; on it are the ruins of a church, and a holy well called "Tobber-Mary," which is still the scene of an annual patron, and much rural, and, happily, now temperate and inoffensive, merriment.

THE PARISH OF ESTERSNOW.

The rectory of this parish is impropriate in Lord Crofton, without patronage, while the vicarage, united with that of Kilcola, forms a benefice to which the Diocesan collates by right. The parishioners compounded for their tithes at £60 16*s.* 0*d.*, which sum, subject to the parliamentary deductions, is payable in moieties to Lord Crofton and the vicar. The latter resides in this parish in a glebe-house, built in 1823, on a grant of £415, British, and a loan of £86, from the late Board of First Fruits; annexed to it are ten acres (plantation measure) of glebe. In the Roman Catholic arrangement the parish forms part of the union of Killuken, as hereafter mentioned. The soil is chiefly used in tillage, but there are several large grazing farms. There are some good quarries of limestone, and a tract of bog to about the proportion of one-fourteenth of the parish. According to the late Ordnance measurement, its superficial contents

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are 6,457A. 0R. 16P., present measure, of which 296A. 0R. 13P., are covered with water. The land was, on the General Valuation, stated to be worth annually £2,788 1*s.* 8*d.*, on the total, rough and smooth. The townlands, into which the parish is apportioned, are 23 in number, 11 of which (upwards of 3,000A.) belong to Guy Lloyd, Esq., and 8 others (upwards of 2,000A.) to Lord Lorton. The population of this district was, in 1821, returned as 1,539, increased in the Census of 1831 to 1,951, of whom 116 were members of the Established Church, the remainder Roman Catholics. The late Report extends the number of inhabitants to 2,035.

The parochial church, a plain but comfortable building, capable of accommodating 150 persons, is situated in a deep hollow near the southern extremity of the plains of Boyle, of which this parish is considered to be the limit. In the churchyard is a large enclosed burial ground, with a marble slab, to the memory of Mrs. Irwin of Camlin, who died in 1840. There are other memorials to John Irwin, of Camlin, obiit 1791, aged 85; to John Irwin, of Rushell, obiit 1821; to James Lytle, obiit 1819, to members of the family of Thomas Crawford, formerly vicar of Estersnow, &c.

To the west of the church, bounded by hills and plantations, are the Cavetown Loughs, which afford an abundant supply of eels in winter, and of trouts at other seasons of the year. At the head of the largest lake are some remains of Cavetown House,

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while the now neglected grounds, by which it is surrounded, still exhibit traces of ornamental architecture, an extensive garden, a massy belfry, and an obelisk, with which it was embellished in the time of a former proprietor, Dean Mahon. On the townland are several caves, from which it derives its name; they are said to extend to a considerable distance, but are only natural fissures in the limestone strata, and now partially closed up.

At Moylurg, within the townland of Clogher, is the handsome seat of Mr. Duke, one of Lord Lorton's tenants, adjoining which are discernible some massy traces of the stone ramparts and rounded angular towers of the ancient castle, once undoubtedly held by some members of the Mac Dermot sept; nature, however, has re-assumed her empire over the works of man, and the weed, and the sod, and the ivy, are thickly matted over the prostrate pile.

Opposite Moylurg, on an elevated bank in the lawn of another private residence, stands a huge stone, perpendicularly set, and popularly called, Clogh-na-stucceen, i. e. "the stone of the little hill," and by some Clogh-cam, "the crooked stone;" it measures about ten feet in height, two and a half in breadth, and one in width, while its depth under ground has not been ascertained. Such stones are very numerous in Ireland; in some places they stand single, while in others they are placed in circles, and otherwise collectively. Their use is, according to different opinions, respectively referred to four

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objects: to commemorate events, to mark places of interment, to denote stations and sometimes objects of worship, or, like the hoar-stones in England, to fix boundaries of districts; in each construction they are met with in Scripture. Miss Beaufort, in her excellent "Essay on Early Architecture and Antiquities in Ireland," while she makes particular mention of the above pillar-stone, enumerates various others existing throughout Ireland, and adds her authority to the received opinion, that the reverence unduly paid to these pillars induced the carved stone cross, which is found in so many churchyards, and usually near the most ancient churches. "By cutting down the uncouth stone to a slender cross," she writes, "or, where this was not feasible, by carving upon the pillar the figure of the cross, or *bas relievos* representing some part of Scripture history, those rude obelisks were consecrated. It appears to have been, amongst the early Christian missionaries, a frequent practice to retain, as it were, the popular veneration, but to change the motive, by investing the object of it with a Christian instead of a Pagan character, hence they were resorted to for Christian worship, as they had been for Pagan idolatry; even now the habit is not quite extinct in some remote parts of the kingdom, as in the island of Cape Clear; close to the ruined church, which is built in the oldest style of mason-work, stands a pillar tower, towards the top of which a cross has been cut, and this regenerated stone is held in great veneration. Pillar

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stones and crosses are in fact so constantly found in the near neighbourhood of the oldest and most rudely built churches, as to shew the probability that these small early structures were purposely placed in such situations as were previously regarded with superstitious respect, that they might share, or rather win from the Pagan monuments the religious veneration of the people." King enumerates(*a*) various instances of pillar-stones throughout England, Scotland, and Wales. Even after Christianity became established, many continued (says Borlase, in his history of Cornwall) "to pay their vows, and devote their offerings at the places where these stones were erected, coming thither with lighted torches, and praying for safety and success; and this custom we can trace through the fifth and sixth centuries, even unto the seventh, as appears from the prohibitions of several councils." Martin(*b*) suggests that there are still some signs of adoration paid to such stones in the Scottish western isles. "In the isle of Barray," he says, "there is a stone about seven feet high, and, when the inhabitants come near it, they take a religious turn round it, according to the ancient Druid custom."

THE PARISH OF KILLUMMOD.

The acreable contents of this parish are set down as 5,159A. 3R. 38P., whereof 301A. 0R. 9P. are co-

(*a*) Munimenta Antiqua, vol. i. c. 2.
(*b*) History of the Western Isles, p. 88.

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vered, partly by the Shannon, and partly by loughs, of which there are several within it; there is also a quantity of bog and some excellent limestone. The total annual value of the lands of this parish is set down for local taxation at £2,509 19*s.* 8*d.* In the ecclesiastical arrangement the rectory is impropriate in Viscount Lorton, without patronage, while the vicarage forms part of the union of Aghrim; the parochial rent-charge, now £63, is payable in moieties to the impropriator and the vicar. In the Roman Catholic division Killummod forms part of the union of Killuken. The population was, in 1821, returned as 1,490, increased in the Census of 1831, to 1,978, of whom only 29 were members of the Established Church, the rest being Roman Catholics. The late Report limits the total population to 1,857 persons.

The church of this parish has been long a ruin; it is situated in the townland of Killapoge, near the village of Croghan, and was more anciently called the church of Dromyn; the parochial cemetery surrounds it, and near it, on Knockroe, is another graveyard, with a rath immediately contiguous; there are three other raths on Lisdaly, three on Knockroe, three on Ballinvilla, one on Carrowreagh, three on Killummod, three on Dacklin, &c. On the townland of Canbo are the remains of a castle, an ancient seat of the O'Farrels, and once of great extent, but its materials have been plundered for the erection of humbler structures. A boys' school for this parish was erected, chiefly by a grant from Lord

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Lorton; it is now maintained by Lord Crofton, and on Sundays is used as a chapel of ease.

THE PARISH OF KILLUKEN

Is situated on the direct road from Dublin to Sligo, the Shannon being its eastern boundary. It contains 4,831A. 0R. 1P., present statute measure, of which 110A. 2R. 10P. are covered with water, the land being valued at £2,596 1*s.* 5*d.* per annum. The soil is chiefly pasture, much also arable, and a smaller proportion meadow, with some marshy land, flooded in winter, but in summer used as meadow or pasture; there is also some bog, on the road from Croghan to Carrick, and limestone quarries abound throughout. A very small portion of the town of Carrick is in this parish, the remainder, which is the respectable division, being in the County Leitrim. Ecclesiastically considered, the rectory of this parish is the proper corps of the archdeaconry of Elphin, but, by reason of its smallness, has been episcopally united, as noted at Ardcarne. The rentcharge of this amounts, on present deductions, to £75 18*s.* 6*d.*, payable exclusively to the incumbent. The glebe house was built in 1816, here the curate of the parish resides, and has a glebe of 13 acres; the venerable incumbent resides in Ardcarne glebe house. In the Roman Catholic division, Killuken is the head of a union, or district, comprising also the parishes of Estersnow and Killummod, and parts of Tumna and Kilcola, which district is also called

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Croghan and Ballinameen, and contains chapels at Croghan and Drumercool, within this parish.

The population of this parish was estimated as 1,790 in the year 1790; in 1821 it was returned as 2,483 persons; yet further increased, on the census of 1831, to 2,948, of which total it was afterwards calculated that only 122 were members of the Established Church, the rest being Roman Catholics. The late Report set down the total as 2,963.

The church of Killuken is an old structure, but capable of accommodating 150 persons. The successive incumbents in this Killuken, for there is another parish of the same name in the county, as far as proveable by the First Fruits Books(*a*), have been as follows:

1615. Vicarage of Killuken; Ralph O'Dunway; church in ruins.

1633. Rectory of Killuken, and vicarage of the same, belong to the archdeaconry of Elphin; William Hollywell, vicar.

1640. 22nd March.—William Dunerill collated to the vicarages of Killuken and Kilcooley, vacant by the death of William Hollywell.

1700. 24th July.—Peter Mahon collated to the archdeaconry of Elphin, and vicarages of Killuken and Tumna.

(*a*) It is to be regretted, that the charges for searching these, and every other class of documents, in the Record Office of Dublin, are so heavy, as to limit legal, and utterly to preclude literary inquiry. The same complaint is, indeed, applicable to all such repositories in Dublin, with the exception of the Registry Office.

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1725. 21st April.—George Caulfield, collated and instituted to the vicarages of Killuken and Kilcooley.

1743. 6th June.—Arthur Mahon collated, instituted, and promoted to the archdeaconry of Elphin, consisting of the entire rectory of Killuken, and vicarages of Tumna, Crieve, Kilcolla, and Estersnow.

1750. 22nd February.—Henry Cunningham, to the archdeaconry of Elphin, rectory of Killuken, and vicarages of Tumna and Crieve.

1761. 28th May.—John Mac Loughlin, to the archdeaconry of Elphin, rectory of Killuken, and vicarages of Tumna and Crieve.

1769. 2nd March.—John Wardlaw, to the rectory of Killuken, with the vicarages of Tumna and Crieve, as Archdeacon of Elphin.

1782. 13th April.—Ephraim Monsell, collated to the archdeaconry of Elphin, rectory of Killuken, vicarage of Killuken, and vicarages of Tumna and Crieve united.

1798. 1st June.—Oliver Carey, collated to the archdeaconry of Elphin, rectory and vicarage of Killuken, and vicarage of Tumna and Crieve.

1809. 15th Sept.—William Digby, collated to the archdeaconry of Elphin, with the rectory of Killuken.

1825. John O. Oldfield was collated to the archdeaconry, with a union of the entire rectories of Killuken and Ardcarne, and the vicarages of Kill-bryan and Kilcorkey.

As Killuken has become so important a portion of the corps of the archdeaconry, it may be here men-

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tioned that this dignity, as far as its succession has been traced, was filled as follows:

1231. John ——, who in 1245 was elected Bishop of Elphin, but never consecrated.

1251. Clarus Mac Moylan O'Mulconnery, died Archdeacon of Elphin.

1255. Thomas Mac Dermot, died Archdeacon of Elphin.

1286. Florence O'Gibellan, died ditto.

1289. Simon O'Finessa, died ditto.

1309. Walter Renagh, died ditto.

1615. John Foster.

1665. James Wilson.

1700. Peter Mahon.

1722. Ludovico Hamilton, promoted.

1743. Arthur Mahon, ditto.

The subsequent archdeacons were identical with the incumbents of Killuken, above stated, the Venerable Mr. Oldfield being the present dignitary.

The village of Croghan, within this parish, had formerly a manufacture of drugget, frieze, and flannel, but this has been discontinued, and the place is now only celebrated for a well frequented, and agriculturally influential fair, held there on the 28th of October, and another on the 29th of May.

THE PARISH OF ARDCARNE.

The superficial contents of this parish (which takes its name from a cairn on the hill, near the

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church, are stated to be 19,962A. 3R. 26P., present statute measure, of which 1,235A. 2R. 4P. are covered with water. The lands, according to the General Valuation, are of the annual value of £8,437 17*s.* 9*d.* In its ecclesiastical division the rectory is the head of a union, and, with the rectory of Killuken and the vicarages of Killcorkey and Kill-bryan, forms the corps of the archdeaconry of Elphin. The rent-charge of this parish is at present £210 per annum, exclusively payable to the incumbent. The glebe-house was built by a grant of £100, and a loan of £300, from the late Board of First Fruits, with a further grant of £100 from Lord Lorton; the glebe comprises twenty acres, but of very indifferent land, and subject to a rent of £8. In the Roman Catholic arrangement this parish is popularly styled Crosna, and comprises, with Ardcarne, a portion of Tumna, having two chapels, one at Crosna, and a second at Cootehall. There are, within the parish of Ardcarne, two National Schools at Crosna, one affording education to 114 boys, and the other to nearly the same number of girls. There are 86 townlands within Ardcarne, of which 32, comprising about 6,500A., are the estate of Lord Lorton; 9, containing about 3,400A., that of William Mulloy, Esq.; 8, about 1,800A., that of Hugh Barton, Esq., &c.

The population of this district was laid down, in 1821, as 5,684 persons, increased in the Census of 1831, to 6,718; the proportion of Roman Catholics to members of the Established Church, then appearing to be

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UNIV. OF MICH.



Church of Calvary

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as sixteen to one. The late census accounts the total as 8,304. The northern portion of the parish is bounded by the Feorish river, separating it from that of Kilronan. It has a considerable quantity of reclaimable bog, and an improving system of tillage is being adopted. Limestone and freestone of the best description for architectural purposes abound, and indications of coal have been discovered in Ballyfermoyle, but, though shafts were sunk, no further operations have been continued. The Boyle river runs through the parish, being crossed by a bridge at Knockvicar, where its banks are adorned with some pleasing scenery.

The church of Ardcarne, being the head of the union, is situated at the southern extremity of this parish, at the hill where once stood a considerable village, the seat of the rural Bishop of Ardcarne, and where a great market for wool was held within memory. Vestiges of the town are still traceable, to a considerable extent of walls now sodded over; a very ancient road also marks one of its former approaches. The church, alluded to, is an old and plain, but roomy edifice, lately embellished with a steeple; in the body are pews for the family of Lord Lorton, and for those of Mr. Mulloy and Mr. Irwin; there are no monuments within it, but the adjoining cemetery, which comprises an English acre, exhibits several, especially for the families of Mac Dermott, from 1746; Mulloys, of Hughstown and Oakport, from 1796; Bligh, from 1786; one to Patrick Mac

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Dermott Roe, obiit 1810, and his descendants; another fine monument to George Mac Dermott Roe, and Esther Mac Dermott, *alias* O'Berne, his wife; the former died in 1836, the latter in 1833. Others to Richard Smith, obiit 1827; to Mrs. Hudson, of Westminster, obiit 1813; to Mary Kilkenny, 1765; to Miss Armstrong, of Maguire's-bridge, 1826, &c.; but the most remarkable is that noted by Weld as standing upright, surmounted by a pediment immediately facing the east end of the church. It bears the date of 1668, and, as far as it can be now deciphered, purports to be erected by Cormac Mac Dermott, in honour of his wife Eleanor Crean. Above the inscription stands a coat of the Mac Dermott Roe arms in relief, surmounted by a tablet with emblems of the Crucifixion. The parochial schoolhouses were erected and are supported by Lord Lorton; they immediately adjoin the church, and are opened for boys and girls respectively, while three Sunday schools are held in the parish, two established by the late Lady Lorton, and one by the Misses Mulloy, of Oakport.

Opposite the church of Ardcarne, the boundary of Rockingham demesne (which also extends into this parish) turns abruptly off from the great Dublin road, following for some distance the course of a minor one, which leads to the northern portion of the barony. At the eastern side of this road is situated Oakport, the very beautiful seat of Mr. William Mulloy; the demesne comprises 630A., most

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Oak point from Callaghmore

picturesquely undulated, and covered with fine woods, that occasionally open into glades, or drop, in graceful inclinations, down upon the river of Boyle, which, gliding out of Lough Ke, here pursues the loveliest section of its course, sometimes a peaceful stream, oftener expanding into loughs of moderate extent, but varied attractions. The annexed view, taken from a hill beyond the lake, opposite the house, suggests some of the interest of the scene, partly exhibiting, as it does, Ardcarne church and steeple, crowning the height at left, the house and conservatory in front, the windings of the river, traceable to Knockvicar-bridge; the wooded hills in the background; the lake between, with its little islands and pleasure-boats; the beautiful slopes, dropping down to its banks on all sides; the openings in the woods; the breaks of the waters, and the lovely little promontories projecting into them. One of these sweet eminences, called Little Port, fronts the house, and affords a singularly delightful rural panorama, extending from Slieve-an-Erin to Ben-bulben.

As Oakport has long been the residence of a branch of the ancient sept of Fearcal, it seems a fitting occasion here to introduce

A MEMOIR OF THE FAMILY OF "MULLOY," OR "O'MULLOY."

This very ancient and historical sept derives its origin from that memorable monarch of Ireland, Nial "of the nine hostages," who, immediately before the introduction of Christianity into this country, first assisted the Irish colony that had passed into Scot-

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land against the oppression of their neighbours, the Picts; but subsequently, having reconciled the differences of both parties, marched, with their formidable united forces, into Britain, and there harassed the Britons and Romans with such perseverance and bravery, as are hereafter detailed. The posterity of this king appropriated the sovereignty so much to themselves, that almost all the kings of Ireland claim descent from him, as do the noblest families of the country. That, which is the subject of the present memoir, traces its line through Fiach, a younger son of the monarch, and, though a poet's heraldry may, in modern times, be lightly estimated, yet in those ages, when the minstrel's lay was the voice of history—when honours and rewards recommended the profession to the most learned—while family rivalries and national revisions controlled their imaginativeness, it must afford the highest evidence of a sept's antiquity, to be the subject of long continued bardic tradition. The Book of Lecan, compiled early in the 15th century, from long preceding poems, and cherished oral accounts, is, accordingly, very full and interesting in details of pedigrees; while, amongst those many, preserved to later days in the Harleian department of the British Museum, is one of the O'Mulloys.

When, after the introduction of Christianity into Ireland, the Fes, or Parliament of Tara, divided the then far more extensive district of Meath, to aggrandize the sons of Nial, Fearcal, then accounted in Meath, was the portion assigned to Fiach, whose posterity held it at, and for centuries after, the period of the English invasion. This fine territory extended into the present baronies of Ballyboy, Ballycowen, and Eglish, and also comprised much of those of Geashill and Garrycastle; surveys of its contents were taken in the time of Queen Elizabeth, and are of record in the Rolls of the Exchequer, Ireland; while the name was even since significantly traced in the great vicarage of Fearcal, extending nineteen miles in length, and from three and a half to six in breadth, although, in the fifteenth year of the reign of Charles the First, that benefice was nominally dissolved, by patent, into four vicarages.

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It is recorded, in the Annals of the Four Masters, that, in the year 984, the people of Connaught, passing the Shannon, devastated the west and south of Meath, when Fearcal was burned and wasted, and the chief of that district slain; no distinguishing name is given in the notice, but sirnames were not given to Irish families until the reign of Brien Boroimhe, the hero of the celebrated battle of Clontarf, at which time the lineal descendant of Fiach, in Fearcal, was styled O'Maolmuadh. His daughter married Teigue, the eldest son of King Brien, who, on his father's decease, ruled Munster, jointly with his brother Donogh, for nine years. Turlough, the son of that marriage, succeeded, in 1064, to the sole sovereignty of Munster, and was indeed principal King of Ireland for 22 years(*a*). In 1017, Melaghlin, King of Meath, led an army into Fearcal, where he fought with the people of that district, who were on that occasion joined by those of Ely(*b*) (the O'Carrols), and in 1089 Murtough O'Brien made a foray into Fearcal, as recorded in the "Annals of Innisfallen," where it is also stated that, in 1094, Mac Giolla Furra O'Mulloy was one of the chiefs killed in an engagement between the O'Briens and the men of West Connaught; and that, in 1110, Gildas Columb O'Maolmuadh (Mulloy), chief of Fearcal, and his wife, the daughter of O'Bric, were slain by Cuconaght O'Allen. The same annalists record that, in 1139, Donogh O'Mulloy, King of Fearcal, was killed by Murrough O'Melaghlin; that, in 1142 (as also noted by the Four Masters), Ferral O'Mulloy, son of the King of Fearcal, was killed by the son of Rory O'Mulloy, in Derry; and, lastly, that, in 1175, Giolla Columb O'Mulloy, King of Fearcal, was treacherously slain by Rory Mac Coghlan. Turning from these evidences of civil feud, a very remarkable member of this sept, Albin O'Mulloy, succeeded, in 1186, to the bishopric of Ferns, after it had been refused by the celebrated Giraldus Cambrensis (Gerald de Barri), the companion and tutor of Prince John, when he first visited Ireland. This Albin was previously

(*a*) Vallancey's Law of Tanistry, p. 549, &c.

(*b*) Annals of the Four Masters.

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Abbot of Baltinglas, in which character he attended a Synod held in Dublin, in 1185, when the dispute arose between him and Giraldus, in Christ Church, in consequence of the former inveighing "against the clergy of England and Wales, that came into Ireland, and by their evil examples had vitiated the probity and innocence of the Irish clergy," as fully set out in Ware's Bishops, p. 439. In September, 1189, this Bishop O'Mulloy officiated with the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archbishop of Dublin, and other prelates and nobles, at the coronation of Richard Cœur de Lion, in Westminster Abbey(*a*). That scene of pageantry was attended by another remarkable individual, by whom the Prelate of Ferns was unhappily embarrassed in his latter years, viz., William Marshal, the person to whom Prince Henry, the eldest son of Henry the Second, on his death-bed at the Castle of Martel, near Turenne, gave his cross, to carry to Jerusalem(*b*). King Richard, at whose coronation he so assisted, gave to this warrior, in the first year of his reign, the hand of Isabella, the only daughter and heiress of the celebrated "Strongbow," in marriage, with the Earldom of Pembroke, and the Palatinate of Leinster(*c*); and to this prudent and valiant nobleman Henry the Second was mainly indebted for his throne.—(His son afterwards married one of the daughters of King John). Under the above grant, the interests and authority of Albin O'Mulloy came into conflict with those of the Palatine, who forcibly disseised him of two manors, appurtenant to his See, whereupon the Bishop resented the injury to the Church by excommunication, under sentence of which the Earl died in 1220, and in two years afterwards the Prelate himself closed his days.

About the beginning of the fourteenth century, Angus Roe O'Daly, of the Meath line of that tribe, addressed a poem of 192 verses to Rory, son of Hugh O'Mulloy, chief of Fearcal. The poem is still extant; and in it the author, who had incurred the displeasure of the warrior, entreats him to "withdraw his resentment from himself, and to spend it upon the English, the plunderers of his native country." In 1316, Donogh O'Mulloy, of

(*a*) Hoveden, p. 656. (*b*) Id. p. 620. (*c*) Selden, p. 677.

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Fearcal, fell in the sanguinary engagement of the Irish with the Lord Bermingham's forces(*a*). In 1373, Edward the Third directed the payment of ten marks, by his Irish Deputy, to Roderick O'Mulloy, "chief of his nation, for his laudable services and labours in the king's wars"(*b*); and in two years afterwards, the same leader received a further sum of 40*s.* from the Royal treasury, "by reason of his having reformed various Irishmen to peace and allegiance"(*c*). About this time Nellan O'Mulloy was the chief, and he it was who founded a monastery for Carmelites, at Milltown, *alias* Ballywallen, in the Barony of Conagh, County Limerick(*d*). His son Odo, i. e. Hugh, described as chief of his sept, established another religious house, immediately afterwards, for friars of the same order, at Frankfort, *alias* Kilcormack(*e*). In 1414, when the afterwards more celebrated John Talbot, Lord Furnival, landed at Dalkey, as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, his first movement was to place himself at the head of all the army then available for the object, and to direct his march through the country of the O'Byrnes, O'Tooles, and Cavanaghs; whence he crossed to the territories of the O'Mores, O'Connors (Faly), O'Dempseys, and O'Mulloys; after which he marched northwards, through those of the Mac Geoghegans, O'Ferrals, O'Reillys, and closed his military progress over the country of the Mac Mahons, O'Neils, and O'Hanlons(*f*). "The most intrepid of the enemies of English government yielded to the influence of a character, which subsequent events so strongly developed; and various indentures between him and the Irish leaders, yet extant in the Rolls of Chancery, so strongly testify the fears which his presence had then excited, as might almost justify the application of that sentiment in this country, which Shakspeare attributes to the sorrowing mothers of France. Unattended, however, as he was, by any regular army, and obliged to rely upon the forces hastily raised in Ireland, he pleaded necessity for recurring to the oppressive and

(*a*) Annals of Clonmacnoise.
(*b*) Chancery Roll, *ad ann.*
(*c*) Id.
(*d*) Smith's MSS.
(*e*) Ware's Monasticon.
(*f*) Mac Geoghegan.

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arbitrary impositions used by his predecessors"(*a*). In 1431 Rory, son, as it would appear, of Hugh, before mentioned as the founder of Killcormack Abbey, died. His father survived him upwards of 22 years, and on his death was interred in the said abbey, in front of the high altar(*b*). About this period Una, the daughter of the O'Mulloy, intermarried with Manus Magawley, the lineal ancestor, in the twelfth generation of ascent, of the present Count Magawley, of Temora. About the year 1460, Shane Mac Gilla Phadruic, the chief of the sept of the Fitz Patricks, intermarried with the daughter of O'Mulloy of Fearcal by whom he had issue, Barnaby Mac Gill Phadruic, chief of Upper Ossory, who lived in the reigns of Henry the Seventh and Henry the Eighth; to the latter, in 1522, he sent an express messenger, with a complaint of Pierce (the Red) Earl of Ormond, Lord Deputy. This ambassador, taking an opportunity to meet the King when he was going to chapel, delivered his commission in these words: "Sta pedibus, Domine Rex! Dominus meus, Gilla Patricius, me misit ad te, et jussit dicere, quod, si non vos castigâris Petrum Rufum, ille faciet bellum contra te." He married the daughter of O'More, of Leix, and continued the line of the noble family of Fitz Patrick; his grandson was the brave and accomplished Sir Barnaby Fitz Patrick, the companion of Edward the Sixth, and the great ornament of his court. In 1478 died Nellan, son of Cuconaght O'Mulloy; he also was interred before the high altar at Killcormack; while in the following year Charles O'Mulloy, the son of Sina, "a brave man, and full of every human perfection," was interred in the same church, at the upper end of the choir, on the north side(*c*). In a "State of Ireland, with a Plan for its Reformation," prepared for Royal attention in 1515, O'Mulloy of Fearcal is stated as one of the captains of the chief Irish regions of the County of Meath; with his daughter Honora, Teigue O'Rody, comorb of Fenagh, in the County Leitrim, intermarried in 1517. In 1537, the Lord Deputy Grey marched to-

(*a*) D'Alton's History of the County Dublin, p. 201.
(*b*) Calendary of Killcormack, MS. (*c*) Id.

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wards Fearcal, where he surprised successively the Castles of Birr, Eglis, and Modrymore, and Broghill, on the Silver River(*a*). Indeed the State Papers, during the reign of Henry the Eighth, give numerous passages illustrative of the efforts of the O'Mulloys, at that time, to maintain the independence of their territory; while, on the other hand, the Crown was most active in asserting its dependance, as recorded in "A Book of His Majesty's Title to (*inter alia*) Fearcal, or O'Mulloy's Country," preserved in the Lambeth MSS. At length their spirit was broken down by such attacks as the above, in reference to which the Lord Grey himself writes to Lord Cromwell: "On the 12th of November the army assembled, and set forwards towards Mac Geoghegan's country, which bordereth upon Offaley, and took the said Mac Geoghegan's pledges, and also O'Mulloy's, for their security to His Grace" (Henry the Eighth). Cahir O'Mulloy was then captain of Fearcal, and the indenture of his treaty with the Deputy, dated at Killeigh, in Offaley, is yet extant in the Lambeth MSS. He thereby bound himself to adhere to the Viceroy against the king's enemies; to pay to the Crown all rents and revenues, due and accustomed on the said country of Fearcal, and to do military service, as required, with six horsemen and forty kerns, during one day and one night, having warning three days before that appointed: and he delivered his son as a hostage for due performance; while Lord Grey stipulated that the Barons of Delvin, the Dillon, D'Alton, Tyrrel, and other captains, subjects of the king, would aid and co-operate with O'Mulloy. In consequence of this treaty it appears, from a despatch of 1538, that O'Mulloy then attended the Deputy on a military expedition, with six horsemen; and in 1542, when Henry the Eighth was first proclaimed King of Ireland, O'Mulloy and "all the great ones of Irish extraction, did submit themselves, and took the oath of allegiance," as entered in the Red Book of the Exchequer. The O'Mulloy, here alluded to (Charles), had thereupon restoration of his castles, and, dying in the following year, was buried in the Abbey of Killcormack. In 1557, writes

(*a*) Mac Geoghegan.

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Ware, "the Lord Lieutenant, being concerned for his Queen in England, that he might leave the kingdom more peaceable, caused some suspected persons to swear allegiance, and give pledges, to wit: O Carrol, O'Mulloy, Mac Geoghegan, &c., and commanded those pledges that were given to be detained in custody(*a*)." In 1558, continues the same annalist, "when Sir Henry Sidney was a second time appointed Viceroy, he directed his colours against Arthur O'Mulloy, then captain of Fearcal, who harboured rebels, and began new factions; and a great part of that country being burned and plundered, he conferred the Lordship on Theobald O'Mulloy, Arthur's brother, who gave his son as a pledge that he should be faithful to the Queen." In ten years afterwards, however, Arthur died, chief of this sept, and was interred in the family vault at Killcormack(*b*). In Edmond Spencer's "View of the State of Ireland," occurs the following passage, in reference to the government of the country of Fearcal, and the contiguous districts: "I greatly mislike the Lord Deputy's seating at Dublin, being the outest corner of the realm, and least needing the awe of his presence, whereas methinks it were fitter, since his proper care is of Leinster, though he have care of all besides generally, that he should seat himself at Athy, or thereabouts, upon the skirt of that unquiet country, so that he might sit, as it were, at the very mainmast of his ship, whence he might easily overlook, and sometimes overreach, the Mores, the Dempseys, the Conors, O'Carroll, O'Mulloy, and all that heap of Irish natives, which there lie huddled together, without any to overawe them, or contain them in duty;" a policy which, in other parts of his work, he yet more enlarges upon. In 1580, the Lord Deputy, having been reinforced with 150 of cavalry, and six companies of infantry, sent him from England, overran the territories of Offaly, Fearcal, Kineleigh, and Ely; he caused O'Mulloy, "King of Fearcal," to be put to death as a seditious person, and, amongst others, "pacified" the O'Carrols of Ely. In 1585, when, in the language of

(*a*) Ware's Annals. (*b*) Calendary of Killcormack, MS.

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the Annals of the Four Masters, a Parliament was given to the people of Ireland (for previous thereto these assemblies were only composed of the English or Anglo-Irish Lords and proprietors), the assembly was attended by, amongst others, Connell O'Mulloy. The Queen at the same time issued her warrant to the Lord Deputy, for taking surrenders of men's estates of inheritance in Ireland, and regranting same to be held of her Majesty. This document is preserved in the British Museum, and amongst those who availed themselves of the proffer was the above Connell O'Mulloy. Previous to this period, at some of those suggested intervals of conciliation, the O'Mulloy was appointed by the Crown, hereditary bearer of the British Standard in Ireland, in right of which honour an official coat of arms was granted, representing *vert* a mounted knight in armour, on a steed richly caparisoned *argent*, and bearing in his hand the British standard *proper*, and on his shield the family arms. This right was recognized in 1595, when, on the march of the Deputy, Sir William Russel, to the north, the Royal standard of England was borne on the first day, as within the Pale, by O'Mulloy, and on the next, after passing out of the Pale, by O'Hanlon(*a*); the privilege was subsequently, in 1634, testified, and the armorials exemplified by certificate from the Office of Arms. When the last-mentioned Deputy, after his said progress into Ulster, besieged O'Madden's Castle of Cloghan, in Lusmagh, the retainers of Teigue O'Mulloy were, in aid of his object, directed to keep ward in a particular quarter, lest any of the garrison should escape. "About midnight my Lord visited the watch, and, understanding of some women to be within the castle, sent to them again, and advised them to put forth their women, for that he intended the next morning to assault the castle with fire and sword, but they refused so to do, and would not suffer their women to come forth"(*b*). In 1597, the chief seat of this family was at Broghill, about which time Doctor Molloy, a member of the family, relates

(*a*) Cox's History, vol. i. p. 407.

(*b*) Sir William Russel's Journal, MS. in Brit. Mus.

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in the preface to his Irish Grammar, that his ancestor there entertained in the Christmas holidays 960 men in his house, though, from the ravaged state of the country by civil war, provisions were extremely scarce. In 1599, "when the Earl of Essex, Lord Deputy, heard to what great straits O'Connor Sligo was reduced (by Red Hugh O'Donnel), he was much grieved, and sent to Sir Conyers Clifford to meet him in Fearcal, to consult upon what was best to be done; the Governor went to Fearcal, and there staid in consultation with the Lord Justice for two days"(a). "A Treatice of Ireland," by John Dymmok, written about the year 1600, and lately printed by the Irish Archæological Society, says of Fearcal: "A portion of the County of Ophaly is called Fearcal, a place so strong as nature could devise to make it by wood and bog, with which it is environed, which, for the natural strength thereof, the rebels in those parts have, ever since the beginning of these wars, made a storehouse for all their preys, peaceably enjoying there, without molestation, what they had injuriously robbed from other parties. In Fearcal from Durrow (whither the Lord Lieutenant purposed to conduct his army), leadeth a way through a thick wood, and over two fords, both of them, besides their natural difficulties, entrenched and plashed in such manner (as his Lordship was persuaded by them, to whom the country was well known), to leave the accustomed way, and to pass the River Durrow, by a bridge which his Lordship caused to be made, to which work the rebel gave no impediment, although that for the advantage of the place he might, with a very small number, and without any loss, have defeated the passage. The army arrived late that night at Ballycowen, half a mile from which is Ardnegroffe, whither Sir Conyers Clifford, Governor of Connaught, was come, with 9 companies of foot, according to direction which the Lord Lieutenant had given him by his letters, not many days before. Sir Conyers Clifford was sore fought with, all his entrance into Fearcal, having 10 men slain and 40 hurt, which loss was, by the virtue of his men, doubled upon the

(a) Life of Red Hugh O'Donnel, MS.

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rebels, of whom were slain and hurt about 100." The survey of 1616, taken with the object of a total transplantation of this territory, sets down Fearcal as containing 49,235A., most of which were to be parcelled out amongst the undertakers, while the old proprietors were prohibited even from resuming their ancient name of O'Mulloy. The chief rectories of the district had, after the dissolution, been found appropriate to the monastery of Grany, in the County Kildare, and were granted to sundry lay proprietors, while the friary of Kilcormack, the burial ground of the old chiefs, was granted to Robert Leycester, who appears to have been an ancestor of Sir Peter Leycester, of Nethertabley, in Cheshire, the celebrated historian and antiquary. From that family it passed to the ancestors of the present Count Magawley, whose great grandfather, Sir Francis Magawley, having erected a town at Kilcormack, near a ford, over the lesser Brosna, gave it the present name of Frankford. The patent rolls of the reigns of King James, and Charles the First, abound with grants as of tracts in Fearcal, forfeited by the attainders of the O'Mulloys. Hugh O'Mulloy alone of this ill-fated sept was pensioned, as thus recorded in a "List of Pensions" in the British Museum: "Hugh O'Mulloy receives £30 8*s*. 4*d*., to continue during pleasure. He is an old servitor, and comes to church, and hath been wounded in the wars, and parted with a part of his lands, by the late plantations, being the first of his name that submitted thereto, and hath a great charge of children on his hands." In an election held at Philipstown, in 1613, for choosing the Parliamentary representatives for the King's County, Caillach O'Mulloy and Sir John Mac Coghlan were named by a very large majority of the freeholders, but the sheriff made a dissentient return, as fully set forth in the "*Desiderata Curiosa Hibernica*" (vol. i. p. 340, &c.) In 1619, Nelan O'Mulloy, possibly as the result of similar submission with that of Hugh, was presented by King James to the vicarage of Fearcal. In December, 1641, the Marquis of Clanricard wrote from Portumna to the Lord President of Connaught. "There is a general concurrence of the same distemper throughout the whole kingdom, which hath lately broke out in the ad-

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joining borders of Ormond and the King's County, and some small pillages already made here by some stealing over the river, the Mulloys, most of the Coghlans, the Geoghegans, the Kennedys, all the neighbours adjoining to this, preying and spoiling to the very passage and entrance to this county, so that I am enforced to place garrisons at Clonfert, Meelick, and Clonthuskert, and my own company in this town, for the guard of the place and my family therein." In the February following the Lords Justices proclaimed, amongst other individuals, Art O'Mulloy, of Rathleen, and Owen O'Mulloy, of Clonekeen, in the King's County, as "apparent, notorious, ungrateful, wicked, vile, and unnatural traitors and rebels," and "warranted and authorized all His Majesty's good and loving subjects to pursue, and plague with fire and sword, apprehend, destroy, and kill, by all the ways and means they may, all the said persons, their partakers, aiders, maintainers, comforters, confederates, complices, and associates." The above Art O'Mulloy was one of those, who aided Lord Clanmalier in besieging Lady Digby, at Geshil(*a*), where her gallant defence assimilates her character to that of the Countess of Derby, in England. In the subscription of those who, in 1646, repudiated the peace of Ormond, occur the names of Arthur Mulloy, with his whole family, and Morgan Mulloy, with three Captains of his sept, while, in the express words of the Act of Settlement of 1662, no less than twelve members of the Mulloy family are recognized as "having faithfully served the King's cause in parts beyond sea."

Here, resigning the narrative of the elder line of this sept, the memoir must follow, as more apposite to this work, the fortunes of one who, though then a younger brother, appears to have carried to his descendants, by survivorship, the captaincy of the O'Mulloys. Some years previous to the last-mentioned transactions, early in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, Anthony O'Mulloy, a younger son of Hugh Oge O'Mulloy, recorded to have been the chief of Fearcal in 1553, migrated to the county of Roscommon,

(*a*) See Lodge's Peerage, vol. vi. p. 280.

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where it would seem, from a notice hereafter in the history of the Barony of Boyle, *ad ann.* 1252, some of his sept had, at a far earlier period, resided, and given name to the district "Tirfither-O'Mulloy," which may be identified with that subsequently granted to the great O'Mulloy, as below mentioned. This Anthony intermarried with Honora Dowell, of the Mantua family, about which time, according to tradition, he filled the important office of Provost Marshal of Connaught, being himself settled at Cloneskean, in said county, as proved by a grant from King James to George Sexton, of various lands in that county, wherein Cloneskean is described as "one quarter, now, or late in the tenure of Green O'Mulloy" (for so was he popularly called) "with a chapel built thereon." The word "late" here used confirms the date of Captain Anthony's death, which occurred in July, 1603, as shewn also by an inquisition preserved in the office of the Chief Remembrancer, Ireland. The son and heir of this Anthony was William O'Mulloy, of Oughter-tire, i. e. "upper country," whom Lodge designates "the great O'Mulloy, Governor and Knight of the shire, for the County of Roscommon." In 1618 he had a magnificent grant from King James, comprising the following extensive possessions within the barony of Boyle: "the manor, castle, town, and lands of Croghan Lugnashammer, otherwise Ardaghluske, one quarter; Rusheens, otherwise Cartrons, one quarter; Cashelkellew, one quarter; Ardmore, one quarter; Killappoge, one quarter; Bunrewagh or Dunrewagh, otherwise Drummins, one quarter; that half-quarter of Innagh, lying next to Croghan; Carricknaborragh, half a quarter; Dowagh, one cartron; Cloondacarrowe, half a quarter; Brackluon and Annaghmona, half a quarter; Lisfarrelboy and Dromrushna, half a quarter; Clownkeen, half a quarter; the town, lands, and two quarters of Annagh-Ilangane; Knockneshenagh, one quarter; Carrowgarry, Lisseduff, Drumard and Drommorenecarrow, half a quarter; Cooledacagh, one quarter; the Glories, one quarter and a half; Clegnagh and Clowngreaghane, one quarter; thirteen cartrons, or 13 parts in 16 of the four quarters of Ballyfermoyle; Tawnadrissogue, half a cartron, saving to Bryan Mac Dermott, Esq.,

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and his heirs, the rent of £2, English, out of the said premises; the town and lands of Ballinkillen and Ardgrilleene, one quarter; Carrownanassa, one quarter; Drumkicoole, one quarter; Mullagh-Iteigue, one quarter, saving to said Bryan Mac Dermott, and his heirs, the rent of £1 sterling, thereout; all which premises, together with Longfordevaghery, one quarter; Cloonekene and Cloonconragh, two quarters; Arme, a quarter; Cashell and Armebeg, a quarter; Clowntraske, half a quarter; Dromdowlin, half a quarter; Cloondacarra, two quarters; Carrownecarrigy, one quarter; and Caltraghisell, one quarter, in the barony, which were also granted to said O'Mulloy, were created the manor of Croghan, with 400A. in demesne; power to create tenures, to hold courts leet and baron, to hold a fair at Croghan on St. Luke's day, and the day after, with a court of pie poudre, and the usual tolls. The patent also passed in the said barony of Boyle two-third parts of the castle of Leamgare, with one-third of the four quarters of Leamgare, and the trine of Scormore, containing a quarter and a third; the castle, town, lands, and quarter of Canbo; the eastern quarter of Fennowre; Dromorhe, one quarter; Carrowmore, one quarter; the trine of Gortnacloighe, containing one quarter and a third; Dromlien, one quarter; Lissigalla, one quarter; half of Carrowentogher quarter; Lecarrowencashel in Boher, half a quarter; Clontowart, two quarters; the castle, town, lands, and four quarters of Callowe, otherwise Carrickbeg; Drumencullew, half a quarter; the town, lands, and half quarter of Clownagunnanee; the town, lands, and half-quarter of Lisduff; Moher, one cartron; Scalpe, half a quarter, with sundry savings, as of small chief rents, to said Bryan Mac Dermott. Other lands in the barony of Ballintobber, which passed hereby, were Carrownegranshie, one quarter; Gortevarla, one quarter; Moigh, one quarter; Garricam, one cartron; parcel of Clowneshallise; Fiaraghkell, half a cartron; parcel of Lisgobbon; one-eighth of Derrycunna, and part of Unimoobeg; while in the barony of Athlone it granted Knockmeanagh, one quarter; Glannagon, one quarter; Carrawneskartan, one quarter; the castle and cartron of Lisdallon; one cartron of Moylitteragh; half of Tobbernacalpy; one-fourth

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of Killcoss; Shanballynaconner, one quarter; and three cartrons of Fearbreg"(*a*). In 1641, this patentee was one of the gentlemen of the County Roscommon who met at Ballintobber, where, Sir Lucas Dillon presiding, they took an oath "for the maintenance of the King's prerogative, and for establishing the Roman Catholic religion in and throughout Ireland(*b*).' He was subsequently plundered of the most of his property by the infamous Sir Charles Coote. The above William O'Mulloy married Margaret Clifford, possibly a relation of Sir Conyers Clifford, who was Governor of Connaught in 1599, and by her he had issue, Connor O'Mulloy, his eldest son, of whom hereafter; and Edward, his second son, who was one of the burgesses appointed in the charter of James the Second to Boyle. This latter married Mary, daughter of the O'Connor Don, by whom he had a son, also styled Green Mulloy, who married a daughter of Sir Maurice Howley, Knight, by whom he had issue one son, William, and two daughters, Bridget, married to Captain Philip Phillips, of Clonmore, County Mayo, and Mary to Captain Burke. William became a captain in the service of James the Second, and was, consequently, attainted, on inquisition taken at Elphin, 2nd November, 1696. He had married Alison, daughter of Sir Oliver Tuite, of Sonnagh, Baronet, and had issue by her, Theobald Mulloy, Esq. (who became a captain of horse in the army of the King of Portugal), another son, Ignatius, and a daughter, Eleanor, who married Mac Dermot, of Moylurg, as shewn in the memoir of the latter family. The "Great William O'Mulloy" had also two younger sons, Arthur and Terence, and two daughters, viz.: 1st, Anne, who married Charles, son of Sir Hugh O'Connor, of Ballintobber, and on his decease became the wife of Edmund Dillon, nephew of Theobald, first Viscount Dillon; and 2nd, Mary, who married Philip Reilly, of Lismore, County Cavan, by whom she had a son, John, who married Mary, the eldest daughter of Lucas Dillon, brother to the Earl of Roscommon. But to return to

(*a*) Patent Roll, 10th July, 15 James I.

(*b*) Lodge's Peerage, vol. iv. p. 192.

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Connor O'Mulloy, the eldest son of said William : he married Jane, daughter of Sir Richard Rutledge, of Belleek, near Ballyshannon, by a daughter of —— O'Brien, of Thomond, and by her had issue, Theobald O'Mulloy, who espoused the cause of King William, while his cousin William, as before mentioned, adhered to James the Second. The former was a captain of dragoons at the battle of the Boyne, and, according to the family tradition, when his king's horse was shot under him, he presented his own charger to the gallant monarch ; that he certainly did some such signal service, appears authenticated by the order of that monarch, transmitted in 1690 from King's-Weston, by Sir Robert Southwell(*a*). In 1691 he was sheriff of the County Roscommon, when notices of his services will be found, *post*, in the General History of the Barony; and in 1695 he was one of the twenty-five Commissioners selected to assess and levy the poll-tax, for the exigencies of the State, in the County Roscommon. He lived to a great age, and, dying in 1734, was buried under the east window of Ardcarne church. He had married Frances Harlow, by whom he left issue, Charles Mulloy, his eldest son, who first served in King James's army, but, it is said, under duress, and afterwards in William's ; in which latter, however, his promotion beyond a company was retarded, by reason of his first adhesion ; he was wounded in the leg on the occasion of the attack of the English and Dutch fleets on Vigo, in 1702. He died about the year 1760, and was buried in the family vault at Ardcarne. By his wife, Hester Adams (of the line from which descended the President of the United States), he had several children. John, his eldest, married Miss Cooper, of Cooper Hill, but died without issue. Coote, his second son, was, in early life, in the 13th Dragoons, and subsequently restored to a portion of his own estates; he married Margaret, daughter of James Dod, by Martha, daughter of John Auchmuty, Esq., M. P. for the borough of St. Johnstown. This Margaret was, in the paternal line, descended from the English family of Dod, of Cloverley Hall, in Shropshire, and

(*a*) See D'Alton's History of Drogheda, vol. ii. p. 333.

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Edge, in Cheshire, whose inheritance of manors, in both these counties, is derived from time anterior to the Norman Conquest; who sent a knight, in the person of Sir John Dod, to the field of Agincourt, and whose alliances mingled their blood with that of the noblest and most illustrious in England(*a*). By this Lady Coote had four daughters: 1st. Hester, married Andrew Kirkwood of Castletown, County Sligo, by whom she had two sons; the elder, late Colonel of the 64th Infantry, married Emily, daughter of General Coffin, Governor of St. John's, and niece of Sir Isaac Coffin, by whom he has issue one son, Townshend Kirkwood, and two daughters.—2nd. Margaret, married to the Mac Dermott Roe. —3rd. Rebecca, to John Phipps of Lisloney; and 4th. Helen, to the Reverend Peter Bermingham. He had also several sons; Tobias, his eldest, was called to the bar in 1775, and died in 1825, leaving issue by his wife, Susanna Roche (daughter of Colonel Roche, whose father represented the city of Limerick in three successive Parliaments), Coote and Charles Mulloy.—Coote (who died in the last year, Sheriff of the County Leitrim) married Mary, eldest daughter of the late William Lloyd of Rockville, by whom he had issue, the Reverend Coote Charles, and William-James, and three daughters, Mary, Hessy, and Margaret. The Reverend Coote Charles married, in 1831, the daughter of Robert King Duke, of Newpark, County Sligo, and has issue by her three sons, Coote, Robert, and William, minors.—William-James, the second son of Coote, the elder, married, in 1837, Anne, eldest daughter of the late Hamilton Gorges, Esq., of Kilbrew, by whom he has issue William Gorges, and Emily Louisa, both also minors. The family residence of these, the elder representatives of Coote

(*a*) One of the alliances, here alluded to, was with Sir John Talbot, the first Earl of Shrewsbury, a hero, by whose achievements in the middle ages history and poetry have been alike embellished; his granddaughter, Matilda Eyton, having married, in 1470, John Dod, lineal ancestor of the present representative of the line, John Whitehall Dod, of Cloverley, and from this marriage the abovementioned Margaret was also lineally descended.

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Mulloy, who married Margaret Dod, has been Hughstown, in the immediate vicinity of Oakport. Charles, the second son of Tobias, was successively Rector of Clontarf and Colooney, at which latter place he died in 1832; he married, 1st. Miss Usher; and 2nd. Miss King, the sister of Sir Robert King of Charlestown, by whom he has left three sons and four daughters. Besides Tobias, the eldest son, Coote Mulloy, before mentioned as having married Margaret Dod, had three other sons. James, his second, was Rector of Kilronan, and died suddenly, at the house of his brother-in-law, the Mac Dermott Roe of Alderford. Coote, the third son, was aid-de-camp to General Eustace, at the battle of Gemappe, and died in London. William, the youngest son, married Frances, daughter of Arthur French, Esq., of Frenchpark (grandfather of the present Lord de Freyne, and for many years one of the representatives of the County Roscommon), by her he has issue three sons, Coote, a Deputy Lieutenant of that county, and lately its Sheriff; William, a barrister; and Arthur-Edward, an officer in the 89th Regiment of Foot; and four daughters, Alice, Margaret, Fanny-Louisa, and Eliza. Coote, the stock whence these two lines of Hughstown and Oakport diverged, died in 1796, and was buried on the south side of Ardcarne church.

Within the demesne of Oakport is a grave-yard, and on the townland of Knockadaff another. From the foot of the high ground in this latter vicinity, called Ox-hill, the annexed view of Oakport, and its lake, has been taken.—On Farnagalliagh, i. e. "the maids' meadow," contiguous to the church of Ardcarne, are some ruins, traditionally identified with a nunnery, which was once a cell to the Abbey of Kilcreunata, in the County of Galway; while, on the summit of the hill, that gives name to Knock-vicar, a monastery for Dominicans was early founded, but of this no traces

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Oak-port, from the foot of Oakhill.

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are now discoverable. This latter place is situated on the road, before mentioned as diverging northward from Ardcarne church, and here the Boyle river is crossed by a bridge of ten arches, which an inscription states to have been erected in 1727, under the superintendance of John French, Edward Drury, Owen Lloyd, Charles Mulloy, and James Seily. The wooded banks of the river give here a very pleasing character to the scene. Pursuing the road hence, northward, over insulated hills varying considerably in extent and elevation, with bogs and moory ground at their bases, Mount Prospect, and the village of Crosna are attained, from each of which is a charming, retrospective view of Rockingham House, its woods, lake, and islands. In the village is a spacious Roman Catholic chapel, to which a fine new steeple has been recently attached, an object visible from a great distance, and itself commanding all the scenery of Kilronan Castle, Oakport, and Rockingham.

Near this are the high lands of Ballyfermoyle, comprising upwards of 700 acres, the estate of Mr. Mulloy, of Oakport, who has opened roads through it, and, by liberal allowances of lime and timber, induced an extensive and comfortable colonization. There have been discovered here some indications of coal, but the inquiry does not appear to have been scientifically prosecuted. In a wild bank of these hills, that cultivation has not yet reached, are two remarkably large tombstone-like slabs, lying beside each other, hacked on their faces with zig-zag lines;

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they are like similar memorials found throughout Ireland, popularly called "giants' graves," and whose frequent occurrence in Denmark, with the same conjecture as to their object, Saxo-Grammaticus notices in his History (*f* iii.) Indeed the name of the townland, *Bally-fer-moyle*, i. e. "town of the man-heap," seems to suggest the immemorial tradition of their existence and use. The two large, horizontal stones, which are now all remaining of this memorial, are of red sandstone, and measure each seven feet in length, by four feet two in breadth, while the face of the surrounding ground presents many large stones adjacent. On a recent raising of the slabs, they were found to lie quite flat and even, on a pavement apparently artificial, bedded in very fine sand, and extending commensurate with the incumbent slabs. Under this pavement were two strata of black and red earth, of the respective depths of from 6 to 8 inches. These strata have been reported as apparently the same with the surrounding soil, and as resting on the solid rock. The zig-zag characters are cut on each stone, to the proportion of a space of 4 feet by 3. On Ballyfermoyle is also a fort, and several others are scattered through the parish; three on the townland of Ardcarne, two on Carrowmore, two at Farnagalliagh, two at Lismalheare, three on Derrygra, and one on each of the townlands of Carrownagashel, Lisgreaghan, Glooria, and Derreenannagh.

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THE PARISH OF TUMNA.

This parish contains, according to the recent Trigonometrical Survey, 9,188A. 3R. 13P., of which 971A. 1R. 34P. are covered with water. The land was valued for assessment at £3,811 11*s.* 8*d.* per annum. Ecclesiastically considered, the rectory is impropriate in Viscount Lorton, without patronage, while the vicarage is comprised, with six others, in the Union of Ardclare, *alias* Clonygormacan, from all of which, however, this is remote; the Diocesan presents to the union. The rent-charge, now £105, is payable in equal moieties to the impropriator and the incumbent. In the Roman Catholic division this parish is partly in the Union of Croghan and Ballinameen, and partly in that of Ardcarne and Crosna. The principal proprietor of this is Mr. Hugh Barton. Its population was returned in1821 as 3,614 persons; increased, on the return of 1831, to 4,433, of whom it was calculated only 233 were members of the Established Church. The late Census states the total, including the inhabitants of Battle-bridge, as but 4,180. There is no church in this parish, but, on the townland of Tumna are some massy old walls of the ancient parochial edifice, measuring in area about 16 yards by 10, having near it a little chantry, 7 yards by 5; these ruins lie close to the junction of the Boyle water with the Shannon, on a swelling slope, and are surrounded by a grave-yard. The Boyle, at west of this point, expands into a fine sheet of water,

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encircled by which is an island of 19 acres, called Inchatyra, to which projects, from the Roscommon side, the beautifully wooded promontory of Drumharlogh, part of the Hughstown estate. On the opposite side of the river, westward, are the ruins of Killeen church, around which, extending from the eastern side of Upper Oakport Lough to Battlebridge, lies the Cootehall property, deriving its name from Colonel Chidley Coote, to whom it was granted soon after the Restoration. Some years since it was purchased by the present proprietor, Mr. Barton. The face of this tract consists of hills, chiefly of limestone gravel, with good parcels of soil interspersed among reclaimed bog. When Mr. Weld published his "Survey of the County of Roscommon" (1832), he stated, that, in several of the then newly erected cottages on this estate, he found the wool-spinning assiduously practised, and looms crowded to excess, for the manufacture of coarse flannels, striped woollens, and cotton stuffs; there is, however, no manufacture or trade here now, and the place presents a mixture of wretched cabins, with a Roman Catholic chapel wholly unworthy of religious appropriation. There are two fairs held annually, on the 18th of May and 14th of November. The old hall is situated on the summit of a gentle eminence, and originally presented a large, quadrangular enclosure, or bawn, of about 100 yards square, bounded by lofty walls, with spacious, but low, round towers, at each angle. The habitable

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part occupied nearly the whole of the eastern side, and what remains of it (for it was burned down in 1798 by the insurgents) is now, together with the northern tower, converted to a farm-house. From the terrace in front of the building a fine view opens of Oakport Lough, with the woods round the house. The approach to the hall was, and still is, up a straight inclined plane, the front of which is filled by a conically topped, gable-like wall, perforated with three Saxon arched portals, the centre for carriages, and the sides for foot-passengers. The ascending avenue leads hence to another Saxon arch, opening into the court south of the hall. The river, where it passes out of the Lough of Oakport, is crossed by an old straight bridge of seven arches, on the off side of which, as sketched in the annexed engraving, is an excellent police barrack, also fitted up for holding the district Petty Sessions. Where the Cootehall estate terminates, at the Shannon, a small village of cabins appears on the Roscommon side, and is called Battle-bridge, the river being here crossed by a six-arched bridge, 150 feet long, and 13 wide.

There are various forts in this parish; six on Cootehall; five on Annaghbeg; four on Cloonskeveen; four on Cleagheen; three on Shanballybawn, Lisfarrellboy, Drumsillagh, Tumna, and Dervarry, respectively; two on Brackloon, on Cloonacarrow, on Cloonmaine, on Cuiltyconeen, on Cloonkeen, and on Loughill; and one on each of the following, viz.,

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Cloonfad, Meera, Moigh, Carrigeen, Foxhill, and a remarkably large one on Inchatyra.

THE PARISH OF KILL-BRYAN.

Kill-bryan, the smallest parish of the Barony, contains 3,852A. 0R. 20P., of which more than a fourth is covered with water, a great portion of Lough Ke being included within its bounds; a considerable section of Rockingham demesne is also within its circuit. According to the General Valuation, the total annual value of the land is £2,865 1*s.* 7*d.* The rectory is impropriate in the Earl of Kingston, without patronage, while the vicarage forms, as before mentioned, part of the Union of Ardcarne. In the Roman Catholic arrangement it is, as before stated, united with the parish of Boyle. About 110 children are educated in three private schools, to one of which Lord Lorton contributes £14 per annum, and gives a house and garden rent-free. With the exception of Kilteeshan (205A.), which is the estate of Dean French, Lord Lorton is the proprietor of the entire parish. Its population was reported in 1821, as 1,064 persons; increased, in 1831, to 1,349; the comparative enumeration of Roman Catholics to members of the Established Church being, on the latter occasion, laid down as upwards of 12 to 1. The late Census fixes the total number at but 1,114.

The chief objects of attraction in the parish, Rockingham demesne and Lough Ke, have been al-

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ready anticipated in the description of that of Boyle, to which they also, to a certain extent, appertain, and it but remains to observe, that there are two forts on the townland of Keelogues, south of Lough Ke, and another on Kilteashan, east of that water, above Knockvicar-bridge. Near the latter is a spot called Bishop's seat, and north of it a holy well, styled Tobber-Patrick; while in the townland of Aghnasurn is a meal, flour, and tuck mill, there are other mills in this neighbourhood, at Ballyfarnon, beyond Lyonstown, and beyond Keadue.

THE PARISH OF KILRONAN.

The Ordnance Survey defines its contents as 16,356A. 1R. 17P. present statute measure, of which 1,681A. 2R. 36P. are covered with water. The lands have been valued, for local assessment, at £4,779 11*s.* 1*d.* per annum. In the ecclesiastical arrangement, this is the only parish of the barony that is not within the diocese of Elphin—it is in that of Ardagh; but, under the operation of the Church Temporalities' Acts, all are now, by union, placed under the same spiritual head in the Established Church. The rectory is impropriate in Mr. Mulloy, of Oakport, who enjoys, however, no patronage in right thereof; the vicarage constitutes a single benefice, to which the Diocesan presents; the rent-charge, £195, being equally divided between the impropriator and the incumbent. The latter has also a glebe of 31A. 3R. 34P., plantation measure (subject to a

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rent of £10), and a glebe-house, erected in 1815, by aid of the then existing Board of First Fruits.

About three-fourths of this parish are good arable and pasture land—the remainder, mountain of rich geological and mineralogical resources. The part immediately about Kilronan brings a rent of from 26*s.* to 30*s.* per acre. This village consists of but a few straggling houses, some standing close near the road side—others removed from it towards the base of the mountains. In it, however, is the parish church, hereafter more particularly alluded to. The Roman Catholic parochial division is co-extensive with that of the Established Church, and for its congregations are two chapels, one in Keadue, and another at Arigna. There are, within the parish, two National Schools, one at Ballyfarnon, instructing 79, the other at Keadue, 85. The population was, in 1821, calculated to be 5,057 persons, nearly one-third of whom were then employed in manufactures, trades, or handicraft; the Census of 1831 exhibited an increase to 6,940; but it was then stated, that only 133 of this aggregate had been so employed; and that there were 213 members of the Established Church within the parish. The late Census calculates the total, which includes the inhabitants of the little towns of Keadue and Ballyfarnon, as 7,085, of whom this says 181 are engaged in manufactures and trade. About one-half of the parish is the property of Captain Edward King Tenison, and a considerable portion of the remainder belongs to Mac Dermott Roe,

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another resident proprietor. Of the many objects of interest to be found within this section of the barony, the old church and grave-yard invite, perhaps, the earliest attention; the new is a neat building, with lancet windows and a spire; it was erected in 1788, stands on an eminence, and has a cemetery attached, in which are some monuments; one particularly, near the church, to the memory of Thomas Cox, son of John Cox, of Creadley, in Worcestershire (who was, on the 23rd of February, 1828, "cruelly murdered," at Arigna Iron Works, in the 72nd year of his age), has been raised by his sister, Frances Cox. Other monuments occur.—To Joseph Waterhouse, obiit 1831. To the Rev. John Maxwell, Vicar of Kilmactrany, obiit 1841, erected by his widow. To the Rev. Charles Seymour, Vicar of Kilronan. who died in 1834 (his predecessor in the benefice was the Rev. John Little, and his successor, the present incumbent, the Rev. Edward Charles Eager). To Jane Crowe, *alias* Hardie, obiit 1839.—Memorials within a railed enclosure, to Miss Frances Tenison, late of Knockranny, obiit 1830, aged 62; also to her brother, Thomas Tenison, obiit 1835, aged 76, &c.

Not far from this, at the same side and margin of Lough Meelagh, are the ruins of the old parochial church and grave-yard, within whose hallowed ambit are deposited the last earthly remains of the celebrated Carolan. He was interred in the vault of Mac Dermott Roe, the enclosure of which, as marked

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in the annexed plate, projects like a transept from the north side of the top of the aisle of the old church. This enclosure is 20 feet long by 16 wide, and at its head are sculptured the armorials of the Mac Dermott Roe, on a white slab inserted in black (as suggested in the engraving), with the motto "*Honor probataque virtus.*" Under this slab, over the mouth of the vault, an altar-like monument is raised, on the top horizontal flag of which are carved the words, "Sacred to the memory of John Mac Dermott Roe, Esq., and his son Charles, both of Alderford, also of a long line of their ancestors who are here interred. —Thomas Mac Dermott Roe, Esq., hath erected this monument, as a small but grateful tribute of filial and fraternal affection.—John, above mentioned, died 17th April, 1777, Charles, the 28th of August, 1776." The slab in front records the death of Mulloy Mac Dermott Roe, "the poor man's magistrate and the poor man's protector." He died on the 24th day of December, 1835, and here has since been buried his son Thomas Charles Mac Dermott Roe. At the foot of this stone table, are monuments to Charles Mac Dermott Roe, obiit 1717, and to Mary Coulthard, *alias* Mac Dermott Roe, obiit 1835, aged 76. Another similar enclosure shoots from the east end of the church, within which is the family vault of the Mac Dermotts of Knockranny; and here is a tombstone to Terence Mac Dermott, late of Knockranny, died 17th December, 1737, "erected by his dearly beloved wife, Helen Mac Dermott Roe, otherwise

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Dillon," and another to Catherine Mac Dermott, of Knockranny, obiit 1773, aged 63, erected by her nephew, Edward Mac Donnell, Esq. The walls of about two-thirds of the old church are yet standing and are beautifully situated over the water, the doorway being Saxon-arched, and curiously carved in a representation of cylinders of about four or five inches in diameter. Within the choir are tombstones to the Rev. Patrick Mac Keon, obiit 1796, and to his brother William, who died in the same year; to Mr. William M'Loughlin, of Cabragh, who died in 1834, and to his descendants; to the Very Rev. William Magarry, parish priest of Kilronan, died January, 1816, "erected by the parishioners;" with many other uninscribed stones: the nave measures 54 feet in length, by 26 in width. In the surrounding cemetery are tombs to the memory of Catherine Mac Loughlin, *alias* Brehony, obiit 1803, erected by her husband, Barth' "O'Melaghlin;" Owen "Mac Loughlin," their son, and others of their descendants, are also stated to be buried here.—To Margaret Mac Dermott, obiit 1821.—To Thomas Verdon, who died in 1782, and to his wife Jane Magan, erected by their son James.—To Charles Ward, died 1786, and his family.—To John Ward (1812), and his family.—To Bryan Lee, obiit 1790.—To "Maggy" Daly, otherwise Reynolds, obiit 1797, and her descendants.—To Margaret Regan, *alias* Durkin, obiit 1792, and her descendants.—To Myles Cullen, obiit 1795.—To Anthony Daly, obiit 1802, and his descendants. — To Patrick

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O'Rourke, obiit 1799, erected by his wife Elizabeth. —To Thady Mac Dermott, 1794, and his family.— To Mary Mac Manus, otherwise Berne, died 1822, and her descendants, &c. &c. A singular custom prevails in this churchyard: up the rising ground, which the cemetery occupies, uninscribed tombstones are ranged in long levels, like disjointed steps, one resting on the edge of another, to the summit. Standing on the corner parapet of the north-eastern angle of the grave-yard, a most lovely view is obtained, of which the annexed plate can but exhibit a section. At left those of Knockranny are seen sloping to the water—the woods of Annagh in the distant centre—groupings of which thence guide the eye to Kilronan Castle and its demesne, and the steeple of Kilronan peering from the trees—the tranquil Lough Meelagh, with its islands, in front of this perspective, and, in the foreground, the old church with its ivied gable, eastern window, two burial enclosures, the escutcheon of the Mac Dermott armorials rising, in fine relief, from the black mural slab—St. Ronan's well, with its lonely circle of trees—and, between these and the spectator, the grave-yard, here overgrown with thorns, nettles, and thistles, there thickly (for it has ever been a favourite burial-place) flagged with tomb-stones, and, above all, hallowed with recollections, that induce the following brief

NOTICES OF CAROLAN.

This last, as he was the most distinguished of the Irish Bards, was descended from an ancient and

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Old Church of Bolsover, the burial place of Cavendish

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respectable family, identified with the records and topography of Meath, where a district is still recognized as Carolanstown. Patrick Carolan, the bard's paternal uncle, appears, in 1691, to have possessed the lands of Muff, 300 acres, in the parish of Nobber, in that county; but John, the bard's father, lost all his property by his adherence to the Stuart line. Turlogh, *alias* Terence, the subject of this memoir, was born in the year 1670, at Newtown, near Nobber, and seven miles from Carolanstown. In the village of Cruisetown, in his own neighbourhood, he received the rudiments of his education, and his first instructions on the harp; where, becoming acquainted with Miss Bridget Cruise, a consequent attachment inspired the earliest of his poetical and musical compositions. In his sixteenth year, however, he was seized by that then most formidable complaint, the small-pox, and utterly deprived of sight by its visitation; but, as he used to say, himself, his eyes were transplanted to his ears. His father was soon afterwards obliged to emigrate from Meath, and, settling at Carrick-on-Shannon, became soon acquainted with the family of Mac Dermott Roe, of Alderford. The lady of that house, perceiving the talent of the boy, had him instructed, as far as his infirmity permitted, in class with her own children, particular attention being applied to the Irish language, then universally learned, and to his favourite study, music. There he remained an almost constant resident for

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years, and, as these were his first friends and patrons, he continued attached to them through life by the most sacred ties of gratitude and affection. He also, at this period, became acquainted with Denis O'Conor, the great great grandfather of the present O'Conor Don, and who, at that period, before the restoration of any part of his inheritance, was living on a farm at Knockmore, near Alderford.

Carolan, in his twenty-second year, conceived the notion of adopting the profession of an itinerant musician at the houses of the resident gentry, whereupon his benefactress, Mrs. Mac Dermott, provided him with a horse and an attendant, and thus commenced the career of this celebrated Bard. Amongst the places, which he first visited, was Letterfyan, an ancient seat of the family of Reynolds, situated near the beautiful lake of Lough Scur, in the County Leitrim, and here he composed his celebrated "Sheemor and Shee-beg," as also his "Planxty Reynolds." His subsequent visits through the Counties of Leitrim, Roscommon, Sligo, Mayo, and Galway, elicited similar local and family effusions. He also visited Meath and Louth, and, amongst his songs of the latter locality, is one in praise of Miss Macneill of Ballymacscanlan. His visits in Ulster were confined to the family of Maguire of Tempo, County Fermanagh, with a young relative of whom, Mary Maguire, he intermarried, and, on that event, appears to have fixed his residence on a farm near Mohill, in the County of Leitrim. "Here," says Mr. Walker

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(from whose "Irish Bards," and Mr. Hardiman's "Irish Minstrelsy," those particulars are chiefly gleaned), "he built a neat little house, in which he gave his friends, 'if not a sumptuous welcome, yet a kind;' hospitality consumed the produce of his little farm; he ate, drank, and was merry, and improvidently left to to-morrow to provide for itself, which soon occasioned embarrassments in his domestic affairs." He appears thereon, to have renewed his itinerancy, and his old acquaintances. At the house of Belanagare, to which Mr. Denis O'Conor had been, by this time, restored, he was a most welcome guest, and in return he used himself to say, "When I am amongst the O'Conors, I think the harp has the old sound in it." About this time, Geminiani, the celebrated musician, being in Dublin, and hearing of Carolan's fame, resolved to test its justice, and singling out a piece of excellent Italian music, he mutilated it in such a manner, that only a very superior judge could rectify the air, or supply the deficiencies; it is, however, stated, that on its being played to Carolan, the minstrel, closely attending to the performance, declared it an admirable piece of music, but that (according to his phrase) it limped and stumbled, when he at once re-constructed the air to its original scope. About this time possibly, he composed his unrivalled piece, the "Receipt for Drinking," a composition which he is said to have begun in Boyle, over a beverage, that, after six weeks' denial, he could then no

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longer resist, and on the following morning to have sung and played in the parlour of his friend, Mr. Stafford, at Elphin.

In 1733, his wife, to whom he appears to have been devotedly attached, died, an event that threw a gloom over his mind, never after entirely dissipated. When the first transports of grief somewhat subsided, he composed a fine monody, which has been translated by Miss Brooke. Many other of his songs have been given to the world in "Hardiman's Minstrelsy," the original Irish being accompanied with sweet translations from the pen of the talented, the too-early-departed, Thomas Furlong. Carolan did not long survive his wife; in 1737, his health, which had been for some years declining, gave evident symptoms of approaching dissolution. At Tempo, finding himself grow weak, he resolved to proceed to Alderford, the house of his never-failing patroness, Mrs. Mac Dermott, then in health and spirits, though nearly in her eightieth year. He was received with the expected warmth and welcome, and, "after he had rested a little," writes Mr. Hardiman, "he called for his harp; his relaxed fingers for awhile wandered feebly over the strings, but, soon acquiring a momentary impulse, he played his well-known 'Farewell to Music,' in a strain of tenderness and feeling, which drew tears from the eyes of his auditory. This was his last effort; nature was subdued, and the dying bard was carried in a state of exhaustion to his room," where, it must be stated with regret, he only lingered for some time, to evince

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that fatal devotion to inebriety, in which he had for many years indulged, and more especially since he had lost the partner of his life; he died at Alderford, on the 25th of March, 1738. When his death was known, it is related that upwards of sixty clergymen, as well Protestant as Roman Catholic, a number of gentlemen, from the surrounding counties, and a vast concourse of country people, assembled to pay the last mark of respect to their favourite bard. "All the houses in Ballyfarnon were occupied by the former, and the people erected tents in the fields round Alderford House; the harp was heard in every direction, the wake lasted four days; on each side of the hall was placed a keg of whiskey, which was replenished as often as emptied"(*a*). On the fifth day his remains were brought forth, and the funeral was one of the greatest that for many years had taken place in Connaught. He was interred, as before mentioned, at Kilronan. A musical commemoration of him was celebrated in 1809, in Dublin; it was chiefly composed of his own popular pieces, but, after an effort of unsteady enthusiasm, though then held twice in one week, it never was since repeated. He left by his wife six daughters and one son; the latter, who had studied music, having, in 1747, published an imperfect copy of his father's compositions, emigrated to London, where he afterwards taught the harp.

(*a*) Hardiman's Irish Minstrelsy, vol. i. p. lxv.

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Doctor R. R. Madden, the author of some works of travel in the East, wrote lines on revisiting Kilronan, the first two verses of which seem of applicable insertion here.

"Time, after all, deals leniently with things
Sacred to genius and religion's name;
The gorgeous piles and palaces of kings
Leave no such lasting monument of fame;
But thy old walls, Kilronan, are the same
Unchanging ruins, I beheld them last,
When, five-and-twenty years ago, I came
And pondered o'er these records of the past,
Graven on stone that age had long o'ercast.

"The same old ivy clings to thy grey stones,
And this unfading drapery of yore,
The Gothic arch and sculptured casement crowns,
And shrouds these sacred walls as heretofore.
These hallowed graves the old trees still wave o'er;
Before thee yet, in peaceful slumber, lies
The tranquil lake; and, on the noiseless shore
The pilgrim stands, and vainly turns his eyes,
Where our 'Last Minstrel's' monument should rise."

The absence of such a monument is still to be regretted, for, although there is no doubt, that this "son of song" was here inhumed, in the vault of the Mac Dermotts Roe, and though a skull, traditionally believed to be his, was long an object of veneration, and so exhibited, in a niche within the old walls, until stolen by some unconscientious *virtuoso*, yet, the precise spot of his last repose is not marked by

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any distinct gravestone, mound, or enclosure; the whole site is, however, consecrated, not less by this association, than by the circumstance of its having been the scene where was compiled that muniment of Irish history, hence termed "the Book of Kilronan," which the Four Masters have designated as one of the sources of authority for their Annals, and stamped with their approval. A volume, said to be the original of this work, but in a very imperfect state, exists in the Manuscript room of Trinity College; it is in quarto, wanting not only the beginning and the end, but also defective in some intermediate places. In its present state, it purports to commence with the year 1014, and to end with 1571; the principal chasms are between the years 1138 and 1170, and between 1316 and 1462. Amongst its contents is a Chronicle of the Kings of Connaught, as from the arrival of St. Patrick to 1464, a transcript of which is in the Manuscript Collections at Stowe. The death of the last O'Conor, to whom these Annals concede the title of king, is thus recorded: "1464, died Teigue O'Conor; he was buried in Roscommon, the nobility of Connaught all witnessing that interment, so that not one of the kings of Connaught, down from the reign of Cathal of the Red Hand, was more honourably interred, and no wonder, since he was the best of the kings of Connaught, considering the gentleness of his reign. There was no king of Connaught after him; they after obtained the title of "O'Conor," and, because

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they were not themselves steady to each other, they were crushed by lawless power, and the usurpation of foreigners; may God forgive them their sins."

The period when this church was founded, or by whom, are questions equally involved in obscurity. There were different holy men of the name of Ronan in Ireland, during the early ages of the Church, but the most probable of these to be considered as the founder of Kilronan, was St. Ronan, the son of Berach, who became Abbot of Drumshallon, in the county Louth, and died of the great plague in 665(*a*). His recorded friend, St. Fechin, was a native of Connaught, and, although resident at Fore, he formed other establishments in the province of his birth, and possibly might have encouraged his holy friend to follow his example. There is extant, however, a pedigree of ancient Irish saints, in which Ronan of Kilronan is mentioned, as of the race of Owen, one of the sons of Nial of the Nine Hostages, while it is not to be forgotten that the Biographer of St. Columba, when he writes of that saint's visit and sojourn at Ballysadare, near Sligo, mentions that he was there attended by many persons celebrated for their sanctity, and amongst these by "Rony, Bishop of Kilroney"(*b*). An inquisition of 1595, alluded to in the History of the Barony, shews that there also existed here an hospital or religious house, well endowed with termon lands.

(*a*) Colgan's Acta Sanctorum, p. 141.
(*b*) Trias Thaum p. 463.

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At the foot of the old church, on the opposite side of the road, and on the immediate edge of the lake, is a holy well, dedicated to St. Blaise, an early bishop and martyr of Sebastea in Cappadocia. It is shaded with old ash trees, and is enclosed by an ancient circular wall, partly covered with ivy. Inserted in its front is a stone inscribed with the words, "Pray for the souls of Roger Mac Dermott Roe(*a*), and his wife Ellen Connor, 1686." Near the well, and now only separated from it by the road, are the scattered stones of what is popularly called Leac-Ronan, i. e. Ronan's Altar; it now appears horizontal, resting on smaller, and on it, says the tradition, the people used to place little round stones, in the observance of some votive rite; such stones are certainly scattered about there, but, it would seem, more probably the remains of an original cromlech. On the 8th and 9th of September a patron used to be held here, which was much resorted to by the peasantry, but the idleness and dissipation, that were induced at these meetings, obliged the Roman Catholic clergy to denounce their recurrence. Another rite, once of popular observance throughout Ireland, but now disused in most other parts of the country, is still preserved here—the lamentations of keeners at funerals, commonly-called "the Irish cry," the *coronach* of Scotland; and certainly, in this sequestered and romantic situation, when the mourners are seen and

(*a*) This Mac Dermott Roe had a grant from the Crown, in 1677, of sundry lands in the Counties of Roscommon and Mayo.

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heard winding through the mountains, and along the borders of the lake, their measured lamentations, swelling or dying away, until they reach this, the revered goal of the procession, the effect is thrillingly impressive to the commonest auditor, while it affords to the historian an interesting association with Patriarchal days in the east, and an additional evidence of the colonization of Ireland from Asia, at a period, when primeval customs and usages must have been in the full maturity of tradition. Chardin, when speaking of wailings for the dead in the latter country, gives an accurate notion of those practised in Ireland: "They continue a long time, then cease all at once; they begin again as suddenly, at day-break, and in concert; it is this suddenness which is so terrific, with a greater shrillness and loudness than one can easily imagine." The Hebrews had their mourning women: "Thus saith the Lord of Hosts, consider ye and call for the mourning women, that they may come, and send for cunning women, that they may come, and let them make haste and take up a wailing for us, that our eyes may run down with tears, and our eyelids gush out with waters"(*a*). From them the Greeks, Romans, and Asiatics, adopted the custom. Homer speaks of the women weeping round the corpse of Hector, and Sophocles represents the chorus crying over the remains of Ajax, while, in the Laws of the Ten Tables, it was found necessary to

(*a*) Jeremiah, ix. 17–18.

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restrain this "*ululatus*," "let all costliness and excessive wailings be banished from funerals;" and again, "let not the women tear their faces, or disfigure themselves, or make hideous outcries." Hired mourning women attend the funerals of the Egyptians at this day; in India funeral cries are yet in use; and, in other parts of the East, travellers still encounter them. Their prevalence in Ireland is shewn from the earliest date. Giraldus Cambrensis found the custom in full vigour, when the English first invaded this island: "Gens Hïbernica et Hispanica aliæque nationes nonnullæ, inter lugubres funerum planctus, musicas efferunt lamentationes, quatenus vel dolorem instantem augeant et recentem, vel forte ut minuant jam remissum"(*a*). Stanihurst gives a faithful and lively description of it, as in his time(*b*), and such is the unaltered character of the ceremony, as of frequent recurrence at Kilronan.

After these antiquarian remains and observances, the object of most inviting interest in this parish is Alderford, the home of Carolan's happiest days, and where he resigned his last breath. His room, with a recess where he slept, has been reverentially incorporated in the new house, and still contains his chair, and the cupboard, and punch-ladle, so associated with the habits that hastened his dissolution. The latter was a too appropriate present from his patron, Mr. Stafford, of Elphin, and is

(*a*) Top. Hib. Dist. iii. c. 12.
(*b*) De Rebus Hib. Lib. i. pp. 47, 48.

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marked with the initials I. S. The present house of Alderford is large and comfortable, situated near the east bank of Lough Skean, in the centre of fine plantations, rich lawns, and cherished improvements. The demesne is enclosed by a wall, coped with a singular species of rubble stone, of extremely fantastic and varied natural castings, suggesting ludicrous efforts at sculpture in every specimen. It is taken from the surface of an adjacent quarry in the County Sligo. The vicinity of this seat is highly romantic, and one of the avenues points to, and terminates in, the neat little town of Ballyfarnon.

This mansion and town, being the estate of the lineal representative of the only branch now located within the barony of Boyle, of a family that once were its exclusive lords, it seems more than justifiable here to introduce

A MEMOIR OF THE FAMILY OF "MAC DERMOT" OR "MAC DERMOTT."

The early pedigree of this anciently powerful family is most satisfactorily detailed in the "Book of Lecan," avowedly from the far more ancient "Psalter of Cashel." The "Book of Kilronan," compiled by their chief poets, the O'Duigenans, has, as might be expected, most interesting particulars of their lineage. There is also a pedigree of the family preserved in the Harleian Collection of the British Museum, and various poems, on the successive Tanists of the sept, are to be found in the Manuscript Collections at Stowe. From these sources, and from the Irish Annalists, chiefly Tigernach, the ensuing notices of their early succession are chiefly derived, premising, that the very surname which they assumed, "*Diarmid*," literally signifies, in Irish, "god of war."

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Achaius Moigmedon, King of Ireland (of the line of Heremon), who died at Tara in 365, was the father of the celebrated Nial of the Nine Hostages, from whom the O'Donnells, O'Neills, O'Mulloys, &c., trace their pedigree, while Bryan, the eldest son of that Achaius, and who became king of Connaught, was the *prepositus* of the Mac Dermots. His son, Duach Galach, was converted by St. Patrick, became the first Christian king of Connaught, and died A. D. 436, as did his successor, Eugenius, in 465, and his son and successor, Muredach Mal, in 489. His successor, Fergus, King of Connaught, was slain in battle in 499, when his son, Achaius, succeeded. He had a brother, Fergna, who was ancestor of the O'Ruarcs of Brefny. Achaius died in 543, and was succeeded by Hugh Abrad, who was slain in battle in 577. Madach succeeded Hugh as King of Connaught; he had a brother, Cuornan, ancestor of the family of O'Flinn. Madach died about the year 601, when Raghallagh inherited the principality of Connaught.

From him descended, through ten generations, Teigue of the Tower, who governed Connaught during 31 years; his eldest son, Conor, was ancestor of the several families of O'Conor Don, O'Conor Roe, and O'Conor Sligo; while his second son, Mulroona Mor, was ancestor of the Clan-Mulroona, comprising the Mac Dermots, the Mac Donoughs, lords of Tyr-Olioll, &c. &c. This Mulroona, or Maolruana, was king of Moylurg, at the time of the battle of Clontarf, in 1014, but too advanced in years to attend there; one of his sons, however, Connor, commanded the sept at that memorable field. On the death of Mulroona, about the year 1020, Murtagh, his eldest son, acquired the principality, or, as it was called, kingdom of Moylurg, and was, in about thirty years afterwards, succeeded by his son Teigue. In 1080, Maolruana, eldest son of Teigue, was chief of the sept; he it was who founded one of the churches at Clonmacnoise, hence called, from him, "Mac Dermot's church," which Archdall notes as having been repaired in 1100, "the shingles, and the lower end of the wall of that great church, being then made good and completed." About the year 1120, Teigue Mor, son of Maolruana, succeeded

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his father, and, while the death of a son of his, Maolsechnal, is noticed in the Annals of Boyle, at 1124, he was himself succeeded by his son Dermot, in whom the sirname of Mac Dermot appears to have originated, and who, as the Four Masters record, died in 1159, "supreme councillor, sage, and excellent mediator, of one-fifth of Connaught," as did his son, Gilla Crist, in a few months after, having fallen at the battle of Ardee, whereupon, his uncle, Murrough, assumed the government of Moylurg, on the rights, privileges, and immunities of which, a poem, attributed to the year 1160, is extant. In 1169, the fine abbey of Fore was burned by this Murrough, who was himself slain in 1186. Eleven years previous to his death, in a gift of endowment, by Roderic O'Conor, of the lands of Tuam, the witnesses were, Cadhla O'Duffy, Archbishop of Tuam, Hugh Flinn, Ignatius O'Monahan, Conor, the son of Dermot, &c.; this latter Conor, son of the before-mentioned King Dermot, succeeded as chieftain of Moylurg, which he held during ten ensuing years, when he took upon him the Cistercian habit, became a monk in the abbey of Boyle, and there died, and was buried, in 1198; whereupon the government of that district passed to Tumultagh, or Timothy, Mac Dermot, the son of Conor, who, in 1204, erected the original castle on Lough Ke, in two years after which, as recorded by the Four Masters, he died. In 1210, when Cathal O'Conor, sirnamed the Red-handed, met King John at Rathwyre, in the County Meath, and acknowledged fealty to him, he delivered, as hostages for his obedience, four noble youths, one of whom was O'Hara, lord of Leney, and Dermot, a younger brother of Timothy, from whom descended the family of Mac Dermot na Gall. The death of a sister of Timothy, in 1230, will be found recorded in the "Annals of Boyle," *ad ann.* Timothy himself had two sons, Cormac and Donough; the former, when Moylurg was invaded in 1207, by Cathal Carrach O'Conor, having been joined by Dermid, son of Magnus O'Conor, O'Hara, lord of Leney, O'Dowda, and others, defeated Cathal, took him prisoner, and disqualified him from governing, by depriving him of his sight. Cormac subsequently distinguished himself, in 1236, when Moylurg was again overrun, and the

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castle of the rock of Lough Ke was assailed, as stated in the "Annals." He it was also, who, as shewn on the same authority, built the first market-town of Moylurg, at Port-na-Carrig, while his brother, Donough, became the progenitor of the Mac Donoughs, lords of Tyr-Olioll. Cormac died, about the year 1245, a monk in the abbey of Boyle, when his son, Conor, succeeded to Moylurg. In his time, Thomas Mac Dermot, a member of the family, was Archdeacon of Elphin; he died in 1255. Another Thomas, the son of Ferral Mac Dermot, theretofore Abbot of Boyle, was, in 1262, promoted to the bishopric of Elphin; and it is recorded, that he granted indulgences of fifty days to those who would perform pilgrimages to the Chapel of the Blessed Virgin, in the Temple of London, and forty more to those who would, with proper dispositions and preparation, visit the tomb of St. Roger, in St. Paul's, in the same city. About this time, William de Burgo, whose inheritance in Connaught had, during his absence in the wars of France and Scotland, been invaded and re-claimed by the native septs, returned, and, by his valour and the discipline of his adherents, recovered his possessions, slaying in battle Phelim O'Conor, Teigue O'Kelly, and Cormac Mac Dermot, who appears to have been a younger son of the above-mentioned Conor of Moylurg. This Conor was, on his decease, succeeded by his eldest son, Gilcrist, recorded as lord of Moylurg in 1300, while, from his (Conor's) brother, Dermott Ruagh, so called by reason of the colour of his hair, descended the Mac Dermotts Roe, as hereafter mentioned. This Dermott Ruagh was Sheriff of Roscommon in 1307, when he was imprisoned by the English, in the Castle of Roscommon, until released thence by O'Kelly, of Hy-Maine. On the death of Hugh O'Conor, King of Connaught, in 1309, Mac Dermot, Prince of Moylurg, invited Phelim, son of said Hugh O'Conor, to his castle, where, assembling the chiefs of Connaught, he conducted him thence to the hill of Carnfree, where he inaugurated him King of Connaught, with the usual solemnities. This was the Mac Dermot, who, being closely allied to the Mac Carthys and O'Neills, and, hating the English government, invited Bruce's invasion to free Ireland from its rulers.

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On the arrival of the Scottish chief, Mac Dermot joined his standard, and, while these allies were, with a large body of the O'Conors, devastating the Pale, Rory Mac Cahil Roe O'Conor laid waste various parts of Connaught, after which he required Mac Dermot to give him the duties due upon him as belonging to the royal revenue of Connaught, and thus to acknowledge him as king of that province; Mac Dermot, however, refused to comply with his request, or to give hostages on demand(*a*).

In 1316, at the memorable battle of Athenry, amongst the Irish chiefs who fell fighting against William de Burgo, the Lord Bermingham, and others of the English, were Magnus Mac Dermot O'Conor, Tanist of Connaught; Art O'Hara, Prince of Leney; Dermot Mac Dermot, Tanist of Moylurg; Murtough, son of Taithleach Mac Dermot, &c., &c. In 1331, Maolruana Mac Dermot, who was the son of Gilcrist of 1300, Lord of Moylurg, resigned his Lordship, and took upon him, in the Abbey of Boyle, the habit of the order, when he was succeeded by his son Timothy. In 1342, the before-mentioned Dermott Ruagh, died a Cistercian monk, in the Abbey of Boyle. In 1347, William, son of John de Barry, Milo Courcy, and John Winchedon, were empowered "for the melioration of peace," to treat with and reform, by the best attainable means, Mac Dermot and his men(*b*). In 1380, Manus Mac Dermott, the lineal descendant of Dermott Ruagh, died Abbot of the religious fraternity on Trinity island, in Lough Ke, while another member of this line, Malachias Mac Dermott Roe, founded, in 1385, the Dominican Abbey of Clonshanville. In 1394, Turlogh Roe O'Conor, the son of Hugh, and grandson of Phelim, was supported in his claims to the sovereignty of Connaught, against Turlogh Don O'Conor, by Mac Dermott, of Moylurg, and O'Ruarc, of Breffny, when the chiefs, who could influence the election, decided to divide Connaught between the two cousins, Turlogh Roe and Turlogh Don, a distinction and division which much impeded the subsequent pre-eminence of the O'Conor dynasty. Hugh Mac Dermot was at this time

(*a*) Annals of Clonmacnoise. (*b*) Roll in Berm. Tur.

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accounted chief of Moylurg, and a poem in his praise and that of his territory, composed about 1395, by Ainglioch O'Donnellan, his chief poet, is yet extant. In 1398, Ferral Mac Dermot, Lord of Moylurg, plundered the Abbey of Boyle; he was the eldest son of Timothy, mentioned at 1331, and had a brother, Conor Mac Dermot, who was ancestor of the Mac Dermots of the Rock. In 1419, Timothy Mac Dermot, described as "heir apparent to the sovereignty or lordship of Moylurg," was one of the chiefs who attended Malachy O'Kelly, of Hy-Maine, in an expedition against de Burgo; he was the eldest son of the above Ferral, of 1398, but never succeeded to the inheritance, having died in his father's life-time; and, as the issue of his next brother, Maolruana, became extinct, Moylurg principality passed to the descendants of Gilcrist Mac Dermot, an uncle of the said Ferral. While the inheritance was in this line, occurred the Parliament of Elizabeth in 1585, when Teigue, the son of Hugh Oge, being Tanist, and very old, sent his relative "of the Rock," viz., Bryan, son of Rory, son of Teigue, son of Rory Oge, who was the great-grandson of Conor, the founder of that line, as his representative at that first Irish National Assembly. This Teigue's line also became afterwards extinct, and the dynasty passed to the Mac Dermots of the Rock. In the intervening years, however, occur the following family notices: In 1444, Thady, son of Thady Mac Dermott Roe, Abbot of Roscommon, died at Rome, whither he had accompanied the Bishop of Elphin on a pilgrimage. In 1458, Timothy, son of Conor, son of Hugh Mac Dermot (which Hugh was brother of the aforesaid Ferral of 1398), was interred in the Abbey of Boyle, and at the close of this century Teigue Dubh O'Kelly, of Gallagh, intermarried with Una, daughter of the Mac Dermot; in consequence of which connexion, when, in 1504, after De Burgo, of Clanrickard, had invaded O'Kelly, and the Lord Deputy, espousing the cause of the latter, had led a strong force into Connaught, O'Kelly was powerfully supported by, amongst others, O'Conor Roe and Mac Dermot of Moylurg. In 1548, Dermod O'Conor sallied out of his own district at the head of a party, accompanied by Mac Dermot, of Moylurg, against "the

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sacrilegious enemies of God and man," as they styled the English settlers; they plundered all Clanmorres, took Castle Mac Garret, and Castle-Coel, by assault, killed many, and carried off great prey. Various other events, connected with the old line of Moylurg and its toparchs during the sixteenth century, and especially their surrender to, and composition with, Perrot (recorded in the Rolls' Office, Dublin), will be found more appropriately in the History of the Barony.

In 1587, the succession being then in the descendants of Gilcrist, inquisitions were taken as to the estates of Charles, Timothy, and Bryan Mac Dermot, members of that line. In 1594, when the celebrated Red Hugh O'Donnel passed his Christmas in Connaught, appointing and changing its dynasts according to his pleasure, he gave the title of Mac Dermot of Moylurg to Conor, son of Teigue, son of Owen, fixing him in his patrimony, from which he had been expelled by the English. O'Donnel afterwards entered Munster, when he was attended by the Mac Dermot, with the following other chiefs of Connaught: O'Ruarc; the two Mac Donoghs; O'Kelly; O'Conor Roe's two sons; the brother of Donell O'Conor Sligo; the two O'Fflaherties; William Bourke, brother to Redmond, and Hugh Mostian. In 1602, when the Lord Deputy Mountjoy passed the Christmas at Galway, the Mac Dermot, styled "of the Curlews," made submission to him, as did the O'Fflaherties of Iar-Connaught, the O'Conor Roe, and many others. Bryan Mac Dermot, the elder, was then chief of the Rock; his estates were, however, in 1603, confiscated, while the following members of the family received the royal pardon: Gerald Mac Dermot, Timothy Mac Dermott Roe, Edward Mac Shane Mac Dermott Roe, Grany Mac Dermott Roe of Mullaghneirenaghty, all in the County Sligo, and Timothy Mac Dermot, Rory Mac Dermott Roe, and Owen Mac Dermott Roe of Aughnacarra, all in the County Roscommon.

In 1604, King James granted to Theobald Dillon, knight, the wardship of Brian Oge Mac Dermot, son and heir of the aforesaid Bryan Mac Dermot of the Rock, by Sarah, daughter of O'Conor Sligo, and niece of O'Donnell, Prince of Tyrconnell (the

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chiefry being then in that line of the family), for the consideration of a fine of £4, and an annual rent of £3 6*s.* 8*d.* sterling, the patentee retaining thereout £2, for the maintenance of the minor in Trinity College, Dublin, and his "education in the English language and habits," from the 12th to the 18th year of his age. In 1608, Conor Mac Dermott Roe, the lineal descendant of Dermott Ruagh, of 1307, obtained, on his surrender to the Crown of his ancient title, that re-grant of the four quarters of Camach, and the two quarters of Kilmactrany, with license to hold fairs and markets at the latter place, as fully mentioned in the ensuing History of the Barony. Various inquisitions were, at this time, taken, concerning the possessions of members of this family, in the Counties of Roscommon, Sligo, Leitrim, and even Galway; amongst these unfortunate sufferers was Cormac Mac Owen Mac Dermot, "slain in rebellion," whereupon his estates, viz., in Anagh, 20A.; Clonfadda, 14A.; Corcot, 6A. of wood; Shanbally-ban, 11A.; Lossed, half a quarter and 31A.; Cooledeagh, 3 cartrons and 25A.; Dromlehard, one cartron, 8A.; Carrownagarry, 3 cartrons, 20A.; Dromornecare, Dromloge, and Moungoran, one cartron, being 22A. wood and bog, with a ruinous weir; Knockeneshannagh and Dromboylen, one quarter, 42A., were confiscated, and demised to Captain Roger Atkinson, for a term of years, at a total rent of £1 10*s.*, and a fine of £5. Yet, even amidst all these political distractions, and the sufferings of the old natives, it is curious to find them turning, as if for consolation, to the charms of their national music; and, at this very time, occurred the memorable and spirited contest for the palm of poetry and song, between the bards of Leath Con (Connaught and Ulster), on the one side, and those of Leath Mogha (Leinster and Munster), on the other. Amongst those distinguished in this literary championship were, on the former side, Mac Dermot of Moylurg, John O'Clery, Lewis O'Clery, Hugh O'Donnell, Boetius Roe Mac Egan, and Anluan Mac Egan; and on the latter were, Teigue Mac Daire, Fearfasa O'Cainte, Turlogh O'Brien, and Art Oge O'Keeffe.

In 1618, Bryan Oge Mac Dermot of the Rock (the minor of

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1604), had, after his attaining age, a grant, apparently magnificent and extensive, yet comprising but a portion of the former princely inheritance of the sept. It restored to him the lands, which, by virtue of the then existing tenures, were held in wardship by the king, during the minority of Bryan, viz., the manor, castle, and town of Carrick-mac-Dermot, *i. e.* Mac Dermot's Rock; Longfort, Knockbrackin, Criveagh, Carguinewilt, one quarter each; the town, lands, and two quarters, of Ballykivegan, Ardkine, Carrownehilly, Carrownacashel, one quarter each; Lecarrownamolagee, Lecarrownaruskeen, Ardcrunnaght, Lowortane, Clownekille, Dromcarmack, half a quarter each; the trines of Clogher, Tullaghbohane, and Tullaghboy, one quarter and a third each; the town, lands, and two quarters, of Ardlarin; Orckbronagh, one quarter; Aughrefinnagan, one quarter; the town, lands, and two quarters, of Killeed and Portnacarrig; Knockecleghan, half a quarter; Cloonebryen, three quarters and a half; Ardess, one quarter; the trines of Faus, Ardcurke, Clowneshughan, Cormock, one quarter and a third each; Shanballysallagh, Ardcollagh, Lismore, Corray, Downeene, Taertan, Shireagh, Carrowentully, Lisphillip, Scorbeg, Carrickmore, Tullaghreyny, Grallagh, Erris, Carrownacreeve, Finnanagh, Tullaghannetawey, Tavernegigh, Dirrechoagh, one quarter each; Cornamucklagh, Lecarrownanalte, half a quarter each; Greanan, one cartron; Mayh, one cartron; Lecarrowbeg, half a cartron; Altigowlan, Seltannaveeny, Graignafarne, Graiglisdrumgarmen, Glashdrumen, one cartron each; Graignaleva, Cornegirghmore, half a cartron each; Cerchfreigh, Carrowkeilegrannagh, Camlin, one quarter each; Carregower, half a quarter; the town, lands, and four quarters, of Knockeglass *alias* Knocklagh, and Moyhyden-M'Loughlin; Trinemarly, one quarter and a third; Mullaghmore, Knockegalteene, Tullaghcattoge, one quarter each; Clowneagh, Lawkill, Annaghmacmorogh, Dromenilrie, Drumsallagh, half a quarter each; the trine of Erblagh, one quarter and a third; Tullaleigue, half a quarter; Clowneriskiveen, one quarter; Ardleeagh, Cartronninreagh, Reask, one cartron each; half Carrowenroddy quarter; Runneroddan, Legwoy, one quarter each; half of Cor-

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raboy quarter, being parcel of the four quarters of Leamgcare; Letrim, one quarter; Carrowkeele, one quarter; Clonebegg and Aghnecart, one cartron and a half; Dirrin, a quarter of a cartron; Clownekille, one quarter cartron; Aughwoltagh, and Bracklagh, one cartron; half of Clegernagh quarter; Carrowenae, one quarter; Lisneshangan, half a quarter; Legetintee, one quarter; Corekegill, one quarter; Lissechoill, half a quarter; Kilconnell, half a quarter; Aghedristan, half a quarter; half Carrowengarry quarter; Cashelecurragh, one cartron; Simony, one cartron; Cornemucklagh, two-thirds of a cartron; Aughowcargeene, one cartron; Clownteracvaugh, half a quarter; half Drumshanguogh quarter; Dromadaragh, one cartron; Correlinny, half a cartron; Correboy, half a quarter; Runnepoll, two quarters; all situate in the County Roscommon: the town, lands and quarter of Ardmunnechin, and those of Ardscrire, in the County Sligo, with certain savings therein reserved. The same Patent included grants to various other members of the Mac Dermot family, of distinct lands, within the Counties of Roscommon and Sligo, while those granted to said Bryan Mac Dermot, were created the manor of Carrick-mac-Dermot, with 300A. in demesne, power to create tenures, to hold courts leet and baron, to hold a Thursday market at Carrick-mac-Dermot, and a fair there, on the 29th of June, and the two following days, with a court of *pie poudre*, and the usual tolls; all to be held at the annual rent of 13*s.* 4*d.*

This Bryan died the chief of his sept, in January, 1636, and was buried in the church, founded by his ancestor, at Clonmacnoise; he had married Margaret, daughter of Richard Burke of Derrymacloghny, by whom he left issue male, Turlough, *alias* Terence, Charles, his second son, and other issue. Terence, on his succession to the family estates, conveyed away about eight quarters thereof, in 1639, to Sir Charles Coote, comprising (*inter alia*) Keadue, Altygowlan, Seltinaveenagh, &c., and the remainder, on his decease without issue, passed to Charles, who, as before stated in the memoir of the O'Mulloy family, had married Eleanor, daughter of the "Great O'Mulloy" of Croghan, when,

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by marriage settlement of the 4th September, 1633, said Bryan being then alive, settled Inchatyra, and various other lands, within the Barony of Boyle, to the uses of that settlement. Charles had, by this lady, two sons, Hugh and Timothy(*a*). To the former his father conveyed, in 1669, the lands of Shruffe, or Coolavin, in the County Sligo, and, in May, 1690, a yet larger portion of the family estates. This Hugh was afterwards a distinguished officer in the army of James the Second, in whose service he was taken prisoner, at Aghrim, but on the interference, and by the interest of Sir Robert King, he was, "for the humanity and kindness evinced by him, towards the Protestant clergy and laity," released. He had intermarried with Eliza, daughter of the O'Kelly of Aghrim, by whom he had issue, Charles and Terence; the latter represented the borough of Boyle, in King James's memorable Parliament of Dublin, and was, consequently, attainted in King William's; whereupon, his interest in such residue of the family estates as was his, escheated to the Crown, while his brother, Charles, succeeded only to Coolavin, on the death of their father, Hugh, which occurred in November, 1707. Before that event, Charles, when Viscount Dillon was "Lord Lieutenant" of the County Roscommon, had an official order, as in virtue of King James's commission, bearing date the 12th September, 1690, for the re-delivery to him of "the castle of Carrick-mac-Dermot, and the castle, or strong house of Canbo, and of all other the castles and strong-holds upon the said Charles's estate and ancient inheritance." He married Catherine Dillon, of the House of Clonbrock, and by her had issue, Myles, his eldest son; Terence, his second son (who, intermarrying with Catherine, daughter of John Blake of Wingfield, County Galway, had issue by her,

(*a*) According to tradition, this Charles Mac Dermot, the last chief of the Rock, had also a daughter, Una, the disappointment of whose devoted love is the subject of some beautiful poetry and music, yet extant in the district, while her grave, which is pointed out beside that of her lover, gives an association of moral interest to the picturesque ruin of the Abbey on Trinity Island, Lough Ke.

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an only child, who became the wife of Edward Phillips of Clonmore House, County Mayo), and Hugh, his third son, who died in India, in the Company's service, and unmarried. Myles, the eldest son of Charles, was married to a daughter of Charles O'Conor, the historian, and died at Coolavin in 1793, leaving issue, Hugh Mac Dermot, his heir, and several other children.—Hugh married his cousin, Elizabeth, daughter of Denis O'Conor of Bealinagar, and had issue, Charles, and several other children. Charles married Arabella O'Rourke, of the ancient sept of Brefny, by whom he has a numerous issue; and he now ranks as the lineal representative of the elder line of the Mac Dermot.

To return to Timothy, the second son of Charles Mac Dermot and Eleanor O'Mulloy; his son and heir was Andrew, who left issue, John, his eldest son, and other children—(from one of his younger sons, Owen, descend the Mac Dermots of Cregga).—John married Mary, daughter of Christopher Irwin, of Oran, first cousin to the celebrated Right Honourable Anthony Malone, and fixed his residence at Cootehall, within the Barony of Boyle, in 1747; he had three sons, Edward, John, and a third, who became a General in the American war, and settled in that country. Edward, the eldest son, married Miss O'Connor of Mount Pleasant, grand aunt of the present Countess Dowager of Desart, and their only son suffered death as an insurgent in the rebellion of 1798. John, the second son of John, the elder, married Lucy, the second daughter of Matthew Phibbs (or Phipps, as the name should, perhaps, be more correctly spelt) of Kincrevan, in the County Sligo, by his wife, Rebecca Wynne, daughter of Major Wynne, of the Hazlewood family; Elizabeth, the elder sister, and co-heiress of Lucy, having married the late George Ormsby of Belvoir, in the County Sligo. This John Mac Dermot, and his wife, died of fever, at the Abbey House of Boyle, in 1811, leaving John Wynne Mac Dermot, of Cootehall, their eldest son, heir, and surviving issue; but the extravagance, and imprudence of his father left him little to inherit; he was born in 1789; embraced, at first, a military life; became a Lieutenant in the 36th Regiment, and fought at the memorable engage-

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ment of Corunna; he afterwards entered the navy as a volunteer, and served at Algiers. He married in 1830, and had issue by his wife, four sons, John Wynne, the eldest; James, Phibbs, and William. John Wynne Mac Dermot may, therefore, be now considered the representative of this, the second line of the sept(*a*).

The next line, that of the Mac Dermott Roe, is, as before suggested, still represented within the ancient Barony of Moylurg. Conor, the son of Teigue, who was the son of Owen Mac Dermott Roe, the last of this branch, before alluded to as the lineal descendant of Dermott Ruagh, of 1307, and who was himself the patentee of 1608, had issue, Charles Dhu Mac Dermott, whose eldest son, Henry Mac Dermott Roe, of Kilronan, had a Royal confirmation of his estates, on a decree of innocence, of 1667; and his rights therein were afterwards especially saved, in a patent of 1678, to Jeffrey French. He married Mary, daughter of —— Fitzgerald, of Turlogh, County Mayo, by whom he had issue: 1. Henry (who married a daughter of Manus O'Donnell, of the County Mayo, and had issue an only daughter, that became the wife of Colonel Robert Maguire, of Tempo, in the County Fermanagh, but left no family). 2. John Mac Dermott Roe, styled, "of Kilronan, and of Camagh, in the parish of Kilronan" (who was a barrister, but resided chiefly at Annagh, on the banks of Lough Meelagh; he married Julia, daughter of —— Ffrench, of Curgurry, County Galway, and died in April, 1777, when his eldest son, Charles, having died in the preceding year without issue, his second son, Thomas Mac Dermott Roe, continued the line, as mentioned hereafter). 3. Thomas Mac Dermott, Roman Catholic Bishop of Ardagh. 4. Matthew Mac Dermott, a physician (who married the daughter of —— Mac Dermott, of Ballinvilla, by whom he had one son, Charles, who went a physician to Jamaica, and there

(*a*) This portion of the pedigree has been kindly communicated by the Mulloy family of Oakport, from traditions and vouchers, which their proximity, relationship, and intelligence, gave them peculiar facilities for acquiring.

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died, unmarried). 5. Charles Mac Dermott Roe, who married Eleanor, sister of Charles O'Conor, of Bealinagar, by whom he had issue:—Reverting to the above-mentioned Thomas Mac Dermott Roe: he, on the death of his elder brother, became the heir of John of Kilronan and Camach; rebuilt the mansion-house of Alderford, on the family estate; married, in 1777, Margaret, daughter of Coote Mulloy, of Hughstown; and died in February, 1823, aged 79, leaving by her two sons, Ffrench and Mulloy Mac Dermott; and two daughters, Margaret and Cecilia, who died unmarried. Ffrench Mac Dermott Roe married Catherine, daughter of Archibald Fraser, Esq., and dying in November, 1827, left by her Thomas, of Alderford House, his eldest son, the present representative of the "Mac Dermott Roe" line; William Ffrench, his second son, now an officer in the 49th Regiment of Foot; and three daughters: of whom Margaret, the eldest, intermarried with the Rev. Richard Swift, a descendant of the celebrated Dean Swift. Mulloy Mac Dermott, the second son of Thomas, married, in 1813, Sarah, daughter of William Lloyd, of Rockville, Esq., and dying, in 1835, left by her four daughters, and one son, Thomas, who, after being called to the bar, married, in June, 1841, the daughter of George Digby, of Drumdaffe, County Roscommon, and died in the following year, leaving no issue him surviving.

The History of the Barony, which was the ancient inheritance of the Mac Dermots, necessarily contains numerous other notices associated with this family, but being also of much local interest, they are there, as it seemed, more properly, set forth.

Contiguous to Alderford House, as before suggested, and on the estate of Mac Dermott Roe, is the thriving little town of Ballyfarnon, the creation, it may be said, of a resident landlord, who only acquired the inheritance within the last twelve years; and which already contains upwards of 40 houses, of which 32 are two stories, and 2 three stories

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high, with a population of 243 persons. It has a weekly market, and eight annual fairs: on 8th February, 28th March, 20th May, 8th July, 20th August, 19th September, 21st October, and 19th December; and its several shops are well supplied with goods for the vicinity; it has also a Loan Fund establishment; a daily post; carriers, travelling cars, and withal, comfortable lodgings for those whom business, or recreation, or scientific pursuits, may invite to this district; and while, in truth, the botanist and geologist will here find much to interest him, the sportsman can enjoy every variety, as well of lake and river fishing, as of mountain and lowland, moor and wood shooting. There is a Methodist meeting-house in the town, and churches and chapels at convenient distances on every side. The annexed view, taken from a swelling eminence, north of the Feorish, exhibits its graceful windings—the bridge, the mill, the street, the meeting-house, at right; the woods of Alderford in the left circuit; a portion of the high ground of Kilmacroy (the Earl of Zetland's), at right; and in the centre perspective the hilly country about Ballyfermoyle. It but remains to say, of this locality, that it promises an increase of importance, from a new line of public road from Carrick to Sligo being contemplated to pass through it; while another, of a minor order, but great utility to his tenantry, has been constructed at the sole expense of Mac Dermott Roe, and is now maintained by county presentment. This, climbing the hills imme-

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Town of Ballyjamesduff in the Parish

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diately eastward of Ballyfarnon, has greatly facilitated the reclaiming of the highlands; enables the mountaineers to bring their produce down to the market, and the sandstone to the town, while they carry back shop goods to their families, and lime for the improvement of their farms. The towns-people, and neighbours of Ballyfarnon, are also brought, hereby, in immediate communication with the collieries. Keadue is another post-town within the parish, but the mails of this district are carried off from points of the direct coach-road by post-boys—those here, from Carrick, and those of Ballyfarnon, from Boyle. Keadue contains 37 houses, a plain chapel, capable of accommodating a congregation of about 500, but much too small for the parishioners; a market-house, a dispensary, a small sessions-house, and a police-barrack. The population of this town, though it is of old foundation, is less than that of Ballyfarnon, being, according to the last Census, but 220; its backwardness must be attributed to the prolonged absence of its late proprietor, Mr. Thomas Tenison, but his non-residence was necessitated by a visitation of sickness, that ultimately terminated his existence, at Florence, in the close of the year 1843. There were patents for holding eight fairs here, but they have not been acted upon of late.

About midway between these two towns, close to the parish church of Kilronan, and extending along the shore of Lough Meelagh, is situated the demesne of Captain Edward King Tenison, the only brother

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and heir of the above-mentioned Mr. T. Tenison. The name of the mansion-house, formerly Castle Tenison, has been, in deference to the old associations of the place, altered by him to Kilronan Castle. It is beautifully situated on a swelling knoll, overlooking the two lakes, Lough Skean at north, and Lough Meelagh immediately at its foot. It is, as shewn by the annexed engraving, a spacious edifice, in form nearly square, three stories in height, embattled on the summit, and topped at each angle by a round minaret. Subterranean passages, as at Rockingham, remove the menials, and household operations, from undesirable intrusion. The hall and staircase are very handsome, and the rooms spacious. In the parlour is preserved a very beautiful cabinet, embellished with scriptural paintings, and many other curiosities and ornaments, of continental acquisition, are arranged through the place. Near the church is the grand entrance to the demesne, having a curious gateway, porch, gate-house, and grotto, of the rubble-stone before alluded to.

A MEMOIR OF THE FAMILY OF "TENISON," OR "TENNYSON."

The family, thus found located in the district of the present inquiry, derives its origin from England, where, at a very remote period, it is traceable in the records and history of the country. So early as in the reign of Edward the First it was represented, in Oxfordshire, in the persons of Henry, John, and William "Tunesende," mentioned in the Hundred Rolls of that time. Passing thence eastward, the name was subsequently established in

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Cambridgeshire and Norfolk. About the commencement of the seventeenth century was born in the Isle of Ely, Philip Tenison, who became an *alumnus* of Trinity College, Cambridge, and Archdeacon of Norwich, in 1642; he died in 1660. A contemporary of his, the Reverend John Tenison, having been educated at Norwich school, and afterwards at Cambridge, was, in 1642, appointed Rector of Munderley and Topcroft, in Norfolk; he married Mary, daughter of Thomas Dawson, Lord of the Manor of Cottenham, in Cambridgeshire, by whom he had issue, Doctor Thomas Tenison, born in 1636, educated at Cambridge, where he became a Fellow in 1657, and was, at the time of the Restoration, Rector of East Carleton, in Norfolk. In 1665, he was one of the University preachers, and curate of Great St. Andrew's, Cambridge, where, during the plague of that time, he was so kind, charitable, and attentive to the inhabitants, that a valuable service of plate was presented to him, a portion of which was, in the year 1810, in the possession of the widow of the late Rev. Joseph Tenison, hereafter mentioned. In 1667, he was presented to the rectory of Hollywell and Nedington, in Huntingdonshire, by the Earl of Manchester, to whose son he was tutor while in College. About this latter period he married Miss Love, daughter of the Rev. Dr. Richard Love, Master of Bennett College, Cambridge. In 1674, he was chosen minister of the parish of Manscroft, in Norwich, and, in 1680, was presented by Charles the Second to the vicarages of St. Martin's in the Fields. He was consecrated Bishop of Lincoln in January, 1691, and had afterwards an offer of the Archbishopric of Dublin, from His Majesty, but declined its acceptance, whereupon he was elevated to the Primacy of Canterbury. While he filled this exalted station, he built and endowed a public library, and parochial schools, at Croydon; he also considerably augmented the library at Lambeth palace with valuable books and MSS., and erected an Episcopal chapel in that part of London where Regent-street, and other modern streets, have been opened; this edifice still stands, opposite New Burlington-street, and over its entrance is imprinted in large gilt letters, "ARCHBISHOP TENISON'S CHAPEL." He administered the

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last sacrament to King William, in 1702, as he had previously to Queen Mary, and, dying on the 14th of December, 1715, in the 79th year of his age, was interred, with his wife, at Lambeth. Having no issue, he bequeathed by will (dated 11th day of April, 1715), the greatest portion of his extensive property to various schools, hospitals, and other charitable institutions; to societies for the propagation of the Gospel, and also to augment small livings; a fair proportion was, however, appropriated for his own relatives, and amongst them, more especially for his nephew, the Rev. Edward Tenison, the son of a clergyman who at first held the office of Register, but became afterwards Archdeacon of Norwich. He had taken the degree of A. B. at Cambridge, in 1694; was ordained deacon and priest by Bishop Spratt, in 1697, and, after sundry successive ecclesiastical preferments, was, in 1708, installed to a canonry in Canterbury, and in the same year appointed Archdeacon of Caermarthen; he was subsequently selected as domestic chaplain to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, afterwards George the Second, and so continued until the prince came to the throne. In 1726 he presented to the Cathedral of Canterbury a brass sconce (that at the east) of 24 lights, having on it the arms of Tenison, with an inscription recording it as his gift. He had married Anne Searle, of a respectable family in Cambridgeshire, and by her had one son, Thomas, and five daughters, to each of whom his Grace gave £1600. Dr. Edward's uncle, who had been agent to the Archbishop, likewise left him at his death £12,000, all of which sums, his children's as well as his own, he embarked and lost, in the ruinous South Sea scheme. In 1730, he resigned his ecclesiastical preferments, on the appointment of his son (said Thomas) to the benefice of Chiddington, with the Archdeaconry of Caermarthen, heretofore held by Doctor Edward, who thereupon passed over as first chaplain to the Duke of Dorset, on his appointment to the Lord Lieutenancy of Ireland. On that patron's recommendation he was promoted to the see of Ossory, in 1731; where he died, in 1735, in the 62nd year of his age, of pleurisy, not permitting his medical attendant to bleed him. All his daughters died unmarried, with the exception

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of one. The Bishop was interred in St. Mary's Church, Dublin, on the south side, where there is a plain monumental slab erected to his memory by his wife, Anne, who survived him many years. He left, by codicil to his will, £40 a year to Michael Stevenson, a deacon, to catechise the children of Roman Catholics, in the wild and mountainous districts of Kilkeasy, in the County Kilkenny, where he obliged him to reside, under penalty of forfeiting the pension. He also bequeathed, to the Incorporated Society for promoting English Protestant Schools, £20; to every clergyman in his diocese a copy of Chillingworth's "Religion of Protestants"; to the poor of each of the cities of Canterbury and Kilkenny, and each of the parishes of Sundrich and Chiddington, in Kent, £20; for building small oratories within the ruined walls of the churches of Aghamacart, Rossconnel, Kildermoyle, Kilbeacon, Listerling, and Kilkeasy, £10 to each parish; he also bequeathed £40 per annum to Bennett College, Cambridge, with the object of endowing a lecturer on husbandry, but clogged with such provisions, that the University renounced the legacy. He is characterized as having been, in private life, a benevolent, hospitable, and pious prelate, while in public he was a staunch supporter of the administration of the day—a protector and promoter of learning, and most zealous in extending the religion he professed.—His only son, Thomas, before-mentioned, was born in Kent, in 1700, educated at Seven-Oak and Croydon, and afterwards admitted, in 1711, to Bennett College, Cambridge, but, being then under the prescribed age, his admission was superseded, when, returning to Seven-Oak, he there received some correction, on provocation of which he absconded to Bristol, and sailed on board a slave-ship to Guinea; there he was for a short time engaged as superintendant of African negroes, but, disgusted with the revolting scenes with which that situation would have familiarized him, he returned to his native country, working his homeward passage like a common sailor; he was kindly received back by his relatives and friends, and, returning to Cambridge, graduated there in 1721. On his taking orders soon after, his father resigned to him the Archdeaconry of Caermarthen, with several livings in

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Kent and Wales. In 1734, he was appointed Chancellor of the Diocese of Oxford; in 1739, a prebendary of Canterbury, and was offered an Irish bishopric, but declined it, not wishing to reside out of England. He died in 1742, and was interred in the cathedral of Canterbury. His first wife was the eldest daughter of the Right Rev. Dr. Potter (then Bishop of Oxford, and afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury), who died in childbirth, and was buried at St. Margaret's, Westminster, where a monument was erected to her memory. On her death, the Archdeacon, in 1738, married to his second wife, Miss Smith, of Nottingham, a lady of considerable fortune, and by this lady left one son and a daughter. Thus far the *Biographia Brittanica* supplies the evidences of this pedigree. According to the tradition of the Irish line, hereafter mentioned, and communications contributed by them, his said son was called, after him, Thomas, and inherited a very ample estate. He, at an early age, adopted the military profession, as a cornet; but subsequently, devoting himself to study, entered the University, where he enjoyed the reputation of an accomplished scholar. About 1762 he came to Ireland, purchased property, and settled at Kilkeasy, the locality for whose religious instruction Bishop Edward Tenison had appropriated such an ample endowment; here he applied himself for some few years to reclaiming that then wild and barren district, on which object he expended considerable sums of money. In 1770 he was called to the bar, but he soon seceded from its dull and monotonous pursuits; and, after making a then rare tour of Europe, he finally devoted the remainder of his life to the benevolent and useful occupations of a resident country gentleman. He married his second cousin, Elizabeth, daughter of William Hayden, Esq., of Croan, by the eldest daughter of the Rev. Charles Alley, rector of Gowran and Castlecomer, and granddaughter of the Most Reverend Doctor Alley, Archbishop of York, a divine, distinguished during the controversy of the Non-Jurors in William the Third's reign. At his demise, in 1788, he left, by this marriage, three daughters and two sons. The eldest of these, Thomas, resided during his life at Rock-Hall, one of several residences erected

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by his father, and, marrying Miss Blackmore, had issue by her, two sons and five daughters; while the other son, Joseph, a person of refined taste and cultivated talents, entered into the Church, and was also a magistrate of the County of Wicklow, where he resided beloved and respected by all creeds and classes. He married Mary, daughter of the Rev. Martin Lucius O'Brien, D. D., who claimed descent from a dynast of the ancient sept whose name he bore. The issue of this marriage was seven daughters and one son, Thomas-Joseph, a barrister and a magistrate of the County Armagh. In 1831, he married Margaret, daughter of the late Alexander Cross, of Portnelligan, County of Armagh, Esq., by whom he has issue. In reference to this line, from the Archbishop, so claimed as in existing succession, it may be added, that a Bible, once the property of that prelate, is now in the possession of the Reverend Thomas Tenison Cuffe, minister of Carlisle Episcopal Chapel, London, and a fine portrait of his Grace is hung in Elsing Spital, London; while another, with portraits of the above-mentioned Bishop of Ossory, and of his son, the Archdeacon of Caermarthen, are in the possession of Joseph Hayden, Esq., of Prospect, County Waterford, a connexion of the family.

The stock, from which his Grace of Canterbury descended, was destined to give another prelate to the Bench of Bishops of Ireland, and to continue in that country, through another channel of succession, the line of the Tenisons; for, according to well-accredited family traditions, Richard Tenison, afterwards Bishop, was a cousin of the Primate. He was born about the year 1640, at Carrickfergus, where he received the rudiments of his education, which was finished at St. Bees, in Cumberland, whence, in 1659, he entered Trinity College, Dublin, in the usual time graduated in Arts and Divinity, and at length became its Vice-Chancellor. Long, however, before that happened, he took the charge of the diocesan school of Trim, and afterwards, taking priest's orders, was, in 1669, appointed rector and vicar of Laracor, and of Agher-Pallice, and was, in 1675, promoted to the Deanery of Clogher, with various other ecclesiastical benefices, most of which he obtained through the interest of the Earl of Essex,

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Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, whose chaplain he was. In 1681, he was promoted to the sees of Killalla and Achonry; but, during the ensuing civil war of 1688 he was compelled to fly to England, where he was chosen minister of St. Helen's, and so much acquired the esteem of its parishioners, that, on his departure to return to Ireland, they presented him with a handsome service of plate, which remained in the family, and was the subject of a special bequest in the will of his hereinafter-mentioned grandson, Thomas Tenison, the Judge. In 1690, he was translated to the Bishopric of Clogher, where he repaired and beautified the Episcopal palace, and made other improvements, until, in June, 1697, he was translated to Meath, enthroned in the church of Trim, and sworn of the Privy Council. He died in August, 1705, leaving bequests for the poor of the parishes of Ardbrackan, Liscartan, Trim, Navan, and Kells; he also devised £200 to the Lord Primate of Ireland, as the foundation of a fund for the purchase of lands, to maintain the widows and orphans of clergymen, and with a hope that the bishops of Ireland would contribute thereto. His biographers describe him as having been a prelate of unfeigned piety and learning, of unblemished life, and distinguished for his hospitalities and charity. He left a numerous family of sons and daughters. Of these

1. Henry, his eldest son, was, in 1695, elected one of the representatives for the County of Monaghan, and, in 1703, one of those for Louth; which trust he continued to discharge for several years. On the death of his father he became his sole executor, as he was his residuary legatee, about which time he was appointed one of the Commissioners of His Majesty's revenue, and, in 1707, purchased the estate of Dillonstown, in the barony of Ardee. He married Miss Moore, of the noble house of Drogheda, and had issue by her, Thomas Tenison, his son and heir, called to the Bar in 1731, and subsequently elevated to the Bench, as one of the Justices of the Common Pleas. He had married Dorothea Upton, daughter of Thomas Upton, M. P., and Recorder of Derry and of the Templetown line of ancestry; by whom he had an only son, Richard, who died in 1759, an event which the Judge out-

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lived for twenty years. A daughter of the above Richard married Henry, the son of Alan, and ancestor of the present Sir Alan Bellingham, carrying with her, to that family, a considerable portion of the Judge's estates, which he specially bequeathed to her.

2. Richard, the second son of the Bishop of Meath, represented Dunleer in the Parliament of 1715, and subsequently; at which time he also exercised the right of patronage to its union. He was likewise seised of considerable estates in the Counties of Leitrim and Roscommon, amongst which were the lands alluded to as in the Barony of Boyle; he died in 1726, leaving, by his wife, Margaret, one son, William Tenison, and two daughters, Elizabeth and Margaret, who died unmarried, the survivor in 1743. This William, the son of Richard, was, in the alarm period of 1746, Lieutenant-Colonel of the 35th Regiment of Foot, raised in Ireland to oppose the expected invasion in support of the Pretender. He married Henrietta, one of the co-heiresses of Robert Percy, of the City of Dublin, and left issue by her, William Barton Tenison, so styled from the Barton property, in the County Louth, which he inherited; he resided at Carrickmacross, and, in 1765, intermarried with Charité Noble, by whom he had issue, Captain William Barton Tenison, of Lough Bawn, County Monaghan, who died in 1840, leaving a son and three daughters. It must not be forgotten, that the widow of the above Richard Tenison, soon after his death, viz., in 1728, married Doctor Delany, the friend of Swift, who is supposed to have printed, at their residence, Delville House, in Glasnevin, the first impression of his "Legion Club," and to have been aided, in many of his productions, by the talent and wit of this lady. In the garden of that very interesting place, where the wits of the day used to assemble, is a temple, embellished with a fresco painting of St. Paul, and a medallion of Stella, by this Mrs. Delany, while, on the opposite face of the side wall of that little edifice, where the Doctor and his lady passed their happiest hours, is a mural slab, within the parish churchyard, commemorative of their deaths. Pous-

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sin's celebrated picture, and the touching epitaph "I too was in Arcadia," could not be more powerfully illustrated than here(*a*).

3. Thomas Tenison was the third son of the Bishop, whose line shall be noticed hereafter.

4. William Tenison was a fourth son, and he left a son, another Richard, who is mentioned in the will of the Judge, as his first cousin, and a limitation of certain estates in remainder, to him and his issue male, was thereby created.

5. Norbury Tenison, born in 1691, while his father was in exile at St. Helen's, incurred the displeasure of his family by his improvident and reckless habits.—Of the daughters of Doctor Richard Tenison, Mary married Henry Coddington, ancestor of the Coddingtons of Oldbridge, to whom came, through her, the Dunleer property.

To return to Thomas, the third son of the Bishop, commonly called Captain Thomas. He succeeded, under the will of his brother Richard, to the Leitrim and Roscommon estates, before alluded to, and died about 1763, leaving by his wife, Alice (who died in 1775) an only son, Thomas Tenison, the younger, and two daughters, Mary Jane, married, in 1759, to the Honourable and Reverend Richard Roper, son of Lord Teynham, and Anne, married, in 1750, to James Edwards, of Oldcourt. Thomas Tenison, the younger, intermarried, in 1758, with Mary Anne Degennis, daughter of John Daniel Degennis, Esq., of Portarlington, at which place he continued to reside for some years, afterwards at Rosefield, County Monaghan, and lastly at Colville, on his Roscommon estate. The issue of his marriage was one son, Thomas, and a daughter, Frances, the latter died unmarried. Thomas was elected representative of the Borough of Boyle, in the Parliament of 1792, and was afterwards promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel of the Roscommon Militia. In 1803 he intermarried, as before mentioned in the Memoir of the King family, with Lady Frances King, the youngest daughter of the first Earl of Kingston, by whom he had two sons, Thomas, who died, as before mentioned, at Florence, in

(*a*) See "D'Alton's History of the County Dublin," p. 344, &c.

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1843, unmarried, and Edward King Tenison, a captain in the 13th Dragoons, and a Deputy Lieutenant of the County Leitrim, who has intermarried with Lady Louisa Anson, the daughter of the Earl of Lichfield, and by her has issue. Colonel Thomas, on the decease of Lady Frances, married Mary Anne Coore, daughter of Colonel Coore, of Scruton Hall and Hauxwell, in Yorkshire, by whom he had issue, one daughter, Thomasine Sophia, married to Robert Saunderson, of Drumkeen and Ravenswood, County Cavan. The latter portion of this pedigree, so far as regards the descent from Dr. Richard Tenison, is proveable by the wills of his son and namesake, Richard, dated 30th October, 1725, and by the will and codicil of his grandson the Judge, dated respectively in 1772 and 1776, both of record in the Prerogative Court of Ireland.

Greyfield, not far distant from Kilronan Castle, is another locality associated with the memory of Carolan. Here it was that Henry Mac Dermott Roe, the eldest son of the Bard's great patroness, often received him; and here, as related by Mr. Hardiman, in the Irish Minstrelsy, "whenever he wished to retire from the noise and bustle of company, he directed his attendant to provide him with a pipe and a chair, and to lead him to the garden, where he used to remain, absorbed in thought, or modulating some of these favourite pieces which have ever since been the delight of his countrymen. Greyfield House," adds the same author, "is now occupied by Hugh O'Donnell, Esq., the elder representative of the ancient chiefs of one of the most illustrious tribes of Ireland, and the eldest male descendant, in a direct line, from Rory, Earl of Tyrconnel, brother of the cele-

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brated Red Hugh, who, by the talents he displayed, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, proved himself one of the most illustrious heroes that Ireland ever produced."

From the village of Loughend, so called, as being at the head of Lough Meelagh, between Kilronan Castle and Keadue, a wild mountain road crosses to the Iron Works, in the valley of the Arigna, whence it passes over that river to Drumkeeran. Another road, however, leads from Keadue, by this locality of Greyfield, into the heart of those coal and iron mountains before described. On these, as on others of the same elevation, although not a tree is at present to be seen, yet is it evident that woods have been heretofore extensive, and their timber of considerable size. The Iron Works, attained by this road, stand on the townland of Derreenavoghy, and, as shewn in the annexed plate, close to the Arigna river. They comprise all necessary furnaces, casting-houses, boilers, steam-engines, forges, &c., for the establishment, a great portion of which was erected within the last thirteen years; yet the operations have been, as before-mentioned, paralyzed, and, although the artist has, in the engraving, represented the works as in full play; the appearance is rather what might be hoped for, than what exists; the valley is silent, and the furnaces give no smoke—even the bridge in front of the works, one arch of which was swept away by the violence of a winter flood, has never since been repaired, although it was the immediate line of

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Iron Works in the Valley of the Virginia

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communication through the parish. A better road now opens the intercourse with Lough Allen and Leitrim, at a point nearer to Lough Allen. It crosses the Arigna by the bold span of a single arch, and, from its course, opens various beautiful views of that lake, the town of Drumshambo, and the mountains of Shee More, Shee Beg, and Slieve-an-Iran. From these works also extends a railway of three English miles, to the colliery of Aughabehy, which gave the chief supply of fuel, while the iron manufacture continued. This picturesque line, passing by a neat little chapel, which the Arigna Mining Company erected here, runs parallel to the course of the river, the banks of which are beautifully intersected with ravines, waving with wild vegetation; where these descend into the river, various holes appear, opened into the hills for the purpose of obtaining the iron-stone, the great quantity of which, yielding about 35 per cent., is worked up and drifted down by the torrent of the river, while the rills and ditches are deeply coloured with ore and sulphur. This rail-road, near its close, is flanked with a range of coking furnaces, and terminates at the mouth of a cavern, through which, from the bowels of the hill, at a great elevation, the loads of coal were heretofore rolled out by a long level tunnel, and passed down to be discharged into the furnace, where the iron was smelted. From the heights above these coal-pits a fine expanse of wild scenery is displayed: those of Graig-na-clogh, finely bounded, and Alty-

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gowlan, beautifully intersected with deep ravines at east; and beyond them Lough Allen, Slieve-an-Iran, and the Donegal hills: while the westward view, from a position nearer Alderford, on the road before spoken of as constructed up the hills by Mac Dermott Roe, presents, in one magnificent panorama, the Shannon, Kilronan Castle, Oakport, and Rockingham, with their respective lakes; the town of Boyle, in the midst of woods—the Curlew mountains—Hollybrook and Lough Arrow—Keeshcorron, Ballymote, Knocknaree, and the Leyney mountains. On the above townland of Graignaclogh is a fine specimen of the cromlech; and there are, within the parish, forts at Lisevin, Shannanoan, Greagh, Srabragan, Mullaun, Glasdrummin, Knockadryan, Upper Rover, Kilgarvey, and three on Keadue.

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HISTORY

OF

THE BARONY OF BOYLE.

When inquiry is directed to the remoter eras of a Nation's vicissitudes, the steps of History, like those of the Patriarch's ladder, with all the interesting objects that once moved over them, must necessarily fade away in a visionary or fabulous medium; yet, while Ireland may justly take pride in exhibiting, even at this day, the most ancient annalists in any northern language, it is matter of especial and satisfactory observation, that the brief and simple style of recording individuals and events, pursued in these chronicles of the olden time, affords the strongest proof of their authenticity. If they were the mere inventions of a poetic imagination, they would be characterized by its deceptive embellishments, and could never present the consistent uniformity, in detail and succession of events, that distinguish our Irish Annals, as the reader of this volume may hereafter ascertain, in the perusal of those of Boyle.

In reference to the scope of country limited for

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the present history, the early traditions which the Four Masters, and other annalists, have adopted, record the bursting out of Lough Tetchet (now called Lough Gara), in the year of the world, 2532. In A.M. 2850, it is stated, on the same authority, that Nemedius came out of Greece into Ireland, with a fleet of men, women, and children, and that, in his earliest expeditions, with the object of exploring this then uninhabited, and thickly-wooded country, he discovered the plain of Moylurg, the earliest name of the Barony of Boyle, and, so much was he pleased with the situation, that he thereon constructed a noble fort, or rath, a specimen of fortified habitation, which was most extensively adopted by his adherents, as the prevalence of these structures throughout the Barony evinces.

Raths, it may be here remarked, are to be distinguished from the moats, or funeral mounts, which are also so thickly dispersed throughout Ireland. "The latter are smaller and more precipitate, and, consequently, wear the appearance of greater height; but they are all artificial, while the former are a work of art, grafted as it were on nature, exercised in commanding situations; cut out of the hill, not raised from the plain; and in fosses, ramparts, and entrenchments, even still presenting the similitude of 'grim-visaged war.' On these raths, at the era of their origin, the habitations of the chiefs of the district and their families, were constantly placed, consisting in general of small buildings, constructed of earth and

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hurdles"(*a*), and in many cases, as it may be supposed, further strengthened with palisades. This part of the country was, like most others of Ireland in those times, forested with timber, and prudence, as well as convenience, suggested such useful application of that material. The dimensions of these earth-works are various, but their forms almost always round or ϙval; and some have caves of considerable extent hollowed within them. Agricultural improvement has, however, altered their face, and, in many instances, mixed them with the soil of the surrounding land. Yet are these field-fortifications evidences, stamped upon the broad face of nature, of almost as much architectural civilization as the Romans in subsequent centuries, even in the Augustan age, left to survive their government in Britain; and certainly it could not be expected, from the materials and structure of the upper works, that, after a lapse of 2000 years, a trace of them could be now any where discoverable. How few are the vestiges of those cage-beamed houses that, but two centuries since, were the pride and admiration of the day? Where could the finest streets of the mightiest metropolis be traced in some years, if any chilling influence averted what, in Irish parlance, may be termed their perpetual renewal? Would not they, too, be as desolated, as if they never had a foundation but in the fancy of bards, and the credulity of enthusiasts?

(*a*) D'Alton's History of the County Dublin, p. 105.

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In A.M. 3266, the Firbolgs, i. e. the Belgæ, are recorded as having landed in Ireland, whereupon the Nemedian colony, being then but a scanty population, the new comers acquired sway over the country, which they held until A.M. 3303, at which time Eochaid, the son of Erc, their King, had reigned ten years. He was accounted the best king of this sept, for, say the annalists, "in his time he annihilated all the wrongs and bad customs used in the time of his predecessors, and established sure, known laws, unto which he caused his subjects to conform themselves; and God blessed him so, that, during his reign, they had continual fair and seasonable weather, free from storms and tempests, by reason whereof all things, to the very briars, were exceedingly fruitful, so that his subjects swam in plenty." But in this, the tenth year of his reign, the Tuath de Danans (i. e. the Damnonii, from the south-western parts of England), invaded Ireland, carried war through the country, and ultimately engaged Eochaid at Moy-Turey, between Boyle and Lough Arrow, where, after a long fight, Eochaid was overthrown, with all his army, and the fourth colony of Ireland there established. The scene of this engagement is described, by the native historians, as a place surrounded with high hills, great rocks, and narrow defiles.

About A. M. 3500, the fifth, and most celebrated colonization, called the Milesian, occurred; subsequent to which Rath Croghan, not far from Boyle,

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became a royal seat of their dynasty, and in twenty-nine years afterwards, a notice is preserved of the re-edification of the fort at Moylurg. In the long line of sovereigns, which these triumphant invaders established over Ireland, Tigernmas is classified as the seventh in succession, in the second year of whose reign, A. M. 3581, nine lakes are recorded to have sprung out of the earth; one of these was Lough Allen, another Lough Ke, which latter is expressly stated to have overwhelmed, by its inundation, a plain theretofore called Magh Sulchair. Nor should these notices detract from the credibility of the Irish annalists; those of other countries record similar changes: the most eminent geographers, Varenius, Cluvier, Boetius, &c., relate such; and surely, in the very province, with which this history is connected, turloughs, that are sheepwalks in summer, and lakes in winter, are of frequent occurrence. In A. M. 3727, the plain of Moylurg was wholly cleared of wood, and in 3790, Lough Skean sprang up within its limits. In A. M. 4981(*a*), a battle was fought at Magh-Ai, a district within this county, extending from Castlerea to Clonfree, and from the town of Roscommon to Mantua, within which was subsequently composed the "Tean Bo Cuailgne," or narrative of that Cualgnian war, which was so destructively waged, about fifty years before the Christian era, between the people of Connaught and Ulster; (a copy of this work is preserved at Stowe).

(*a*) Of the chronology of the Irish annalists, see *post.*

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Emerging from this obscure period of history, the first notice of importance available, is suggested by the map on which Ptolemy, at the close of the first century, delineated, with singular fidelity, the maritime parts, tribes, and rivers, of Ireland; but, as his knowledge was avowedly gleaned from merchants frequenting its harbours, his assertions respecting the interior are less to be depended upon; he does, however, seem to suggest that a tribe, whom he calls the Auterii, were settled hereabout, though this appellation is by others referred to the inhabitants of the western coasts of the Counties of Galway and Mayo. The section of the present County of Roscommon, extending from Lough Ke to Briole (in the now called Barony of Athlone), was, about the same time, possessed by a race of people, whom the Book of Lecan calls the *Cruithneach*, i. e. "painted men" (as it would seem, a tribe of Picts), while another tribe, called the Cregrai, dwelt from Lough Gara to the Barnes. In A. D. 236, another battle was fought at Magh-Ai, in which Aodh (Hugh), King of Connaught, was defeated.

The next notice is connected with the mission of St. Patrick, and the earliest introduction of Christianity into Ireland. The Apostle, as his biographers relate, having achieved the dispersion of a Pagan host, who had assembled at Magh Sleught, in the present County of Leitrim, for the celebration of heathen rites, resolved to visit the region of Moylurg, and, in his progress through it, crossed the Boyle

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river " below the place where it issues from Lough Techet (Lough Gara), and near the cataract of Eas-mac-neirc. Upon this occasion, which is referred to A. D. 435, he is stated to have prophesied the establishment of a monastery there by Columba, and (according to St. Evinus) to have blessed, for its use, the head and upper portion of the stream with an abundance of fish. Afterwards he pursued his holy mission to the royal residence of Rath-Croghan. Ardcarne was at this time, or soon afterwards, constituted a rural bishopric, and the death of St. Beoad, Bishop of Ardcarne, in 523, is especially commemorated by the Four Masters. About the year 534, Tuathal, surnamed Maolgarbh, King of Ireland, and great grandson of Niall of the Nine Hostages, fought a battle on Lough Arrow, as it would appear, with those sons of Erc, from whom the said cataract of Eas-mac-n-Erc took its name. Adamnan, in his " Life of Columba," furnishes, at the year 560, a very interesting notice connected with this district. " St. Columba was sitting on a certain day," says the holy biographer, " surrounded by his brethren, on the banks of Lough Ke, and near the place where the river of Boyle flows into that lake, when a certain Irish poet, who was at the moment oppressed with melancholy, came to where they sat, and, after a short conversation with them, departed. 'Why,' inquired the companions of Columba, of their master, as the bard was receding, 'why did you not entreat him to sing, according to the sweet modula-

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tions of his art.' 'Ah,' replied the saint, wherefore do you utter these unthinking words; how could I seek a song of joy from one plunged in such heaviness of sorrow?'" The incident is somewhat akin to the magnificent thought of the Psalmist:

> "How shall we tune our voice to sing,
> Or touch our harps with skilful hands;
> Shall hymns of joy to God our King
> Be sung by slaves, on foreign lands?"

This narrative would suggest that there existed in Ireland, in the days of St. Columba, a class of men whose profession it was to sing poems, according to an ancient art peculiar to that country; and, as Dr. O'Conor justly observes, as the most ancient Irish poems are in rhyme, which appear to have been originally adapted to the music of the harp, or the voice of the bard, that art could not have been derived from the Greeks or Romans, to whom rhyming was unknown. The scene of this occurrence was consecrated by Columba soon afterwards erecting "a noble monastery" there, being evidently where the ruins on Drum still mark holy ground, and near the fall of water whence it took the name of Eas-macneirc. Over this religious house, whose establishment confirmed the prophecy of St. Patrick, Columba placed his disciple St. Mochanna, and betook himself to Britain. In some years afterwards an abbey was also founded on Church island, in Lough Ke, sometimes called Inchmacnerin. In 748, Fursey died, Abbot of the monastery of Eas-mac-

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neirc(*a*); and, in 795, while Ædan, son of Neill Frassach, was King of Ireland, the Danes, landing on the north-west coast of Ireland, penetrated as far as Roscommon, devastating the surrounding country, and giving, as Moore writes, "to the inhabitants of the interior, their first bitter foretaste of the misery that was yet in store for them." In 824, Artrigius, Archbishop of Armagh, exercised Primatial rights here and in other parts of Connaught, visiting the incumbents, introducing his rules of discipline, and receiving pensions thereout, a precedent which was followed by subsequent Primates, and especially by Celsus, in 1116(*b*).

The Annals of the Four Masters mention, at the year 930, that the crosier of St. Kieran was then lost in Lough Gara, on which occasion twelve men were likewise drowned; the crosier was, however, soon afterwards discovered, and raised. In 932, the Danes of Limerick devastated Connaught, to the verge of Moylurg; and, in 955, the Annals of the Four Masters notice "the fleet of Ferral, son of Art, on Lough Ke," but, while the object of the expedition is unexplained, the chief appears to have been Ferral O'Rourke, son of the ruler of Brefny. In 984, Melaghlin, King of Ireland, "devastated Connaught, seized upon its islands, slew its chieftains, and reduced Magh Ai, south of Moylurg, to ashes"(*c*). In 993, Fogarty Mac Dermot, one of the early an-

(*a*) Annals of the Four Masters. (*b*) Id. (*c*) Id.

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cestors of the family who so long ruled this district, was slain at Corran by the people of Galen(*a*); and in 1001, Merlechan, styled the King of that Galen, and Brotudh Mac Dermot, were slain by Melaghlin. The Annals of Innisfallen, in the very elaborate account which they give of the memorable battle of Clontarf, in 1014, mention, amongst the leaders, who obeyed the summons of Brien Boroimhe on that occasion, Conor, son of Maolruan, as commander of the sept of the Mac Dermots of Moylurg. In 1078, Murtagh O'Brien, then King of Munster, laid waste Connaught, to the country of Magh-ai, until the natives, meeting him there in battle, were defeated, with the loss of many of their chiefs, and amongst them Cathal O'Conor, the next in expectancy to the kingdom of Connaught. Murtogh followed up his victory, by expelling the inhabitants, as well of Magh-ai as of the contiguous territory of Moylurg, into Brefney, whence O'Rourke came over to his encampment, and received from him the government of Connaught, excepting some few localities(*b*). In 1088 Donell O'Loghlen, with the men of Tyrconnel and Tyrone, plundered Connaught, and even braved its King at Rathcroghan, who was fain there to pay them homage, and entertain the whole army for a fortnight; and in 1095 Murtagh O'Brien encamped on the plains of Fiachra, in the western part of Leitrim, and expelled out of their habitations the people

(*a*) Annals of Ulster. (*b*) Annals of Inisfallen.

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of Munter-iolis, and those of Siol-Murry (the vicinity of Sligo), forcing them to take shelter in Moylurg and Mayo(*a*). In this year, a plague afflicted Ireland, "in so much, that all the cities and villages were laid waste, and there is no account to be given of all the people that died."

In 1124, the son of the "king of Moylurg" was killed by Tiernan O'Ruarc. In 1131, was fought a battle on the Curlews, mentioned *post;* and in 1132 and 1135 the territories of Magh-Ai, Moylurg, and Coran, were laid waste by the people of Brefny. In 1138, Turlogh O'Conor, with the forces of Connaught, Tiernan O'Ruarc, with those of Brefny, and Donogh O'Carrol, with those of Louth, assembled together, to defend their respective territories from the encroachments of Murrough O'Melaghlin. Murrough advanced against them with his forces of Meath, the Danes of Dublin, and his auxiliary, the afterwards so notorious Dermot Mac Murrough, with the people of Leinster. At length, both parties encamped close to each other in the woods of Moylurg, and here, with but a glade and a grove between them, they remained a whole week without conflict, when both retired. Murrough, however, and his men, destroyed the harvests of Brefny. In the same year, according to the Four Masters, Maolpatrick O'Drugan, head professor of Armagh, and most remarkable for his devotion and zeal, died, while he was on a pil-

(*a*) Annals of Innisfallen.

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grimage to the island in Lough Ke. In six years afterwards, Connaught was sorely afflicted by a visitation of plague. In 1146, Tiernan O'Ruarc, prince of Brefny, invaded Moylurg, and, in 1151, Nial O'Loghlen having, with the septs of Ulster, made a descent by Ballyshannon, upon the country between Sligo and Boyle, Turlogh O'Conor met him hereabout, as he was coming out of the Curlew mountains, and Turlogh, submitting to give hostages to the Northerns, they returned to their homes. In three years afterwards, however, the same septs of invaders desolated Moylurg and Magh-Ai, to the fort of Dunamon, burning the crops in their whole course.

The older religious establishments having been at this time much superseded, by the introduction of monks of the Cistercian order, under the auspices of St. Malachy, Archbishop of Armagh, a fraternity of that discipline, coming into Connaught, procured their first settlement at Grellech-dinagh, where Peter O'Mordha, a man of great learning, became their Abbot. (He was afterwards promoted to the see of Clonfert, and was drowned in the Shannon, in 1171). Aodh (Hugh) O'Maccain, his successor, removed the establishment to Drumconaid, the site of the more ancient Columbian house of Eas-mac-neirc(*a*), and now called Drum; he was succeeded by Maurice O'Duffy, who continued here for nearly three

(*a*) O'Conor's Catal. Stowe, vol. i. p. 203.

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years, when he removed to Buinfinny, and, after residing there for two years and a half, at length fixed his fraternity at Boyle, and founded its splendid abbey in 1161. It was then dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, constituted a filial establishment to Mellefont, and thereby became dependant on the alien Priory of Clareval, in France.

The following list of the Cistercian Abbeys of Ireland, according to chronological arrangement, seems worthy of insertion here, with their sites and ancient taxations:

		s.	*d.*	
1139.	St. Mary's, Dublin,	20	0	Dublin City.
1142.	Mellefont,	20	0	Co. Louth.
1148.	De Beatitudine,	13	4	Bective.
	De Valle Salutis,	13	4	Baltinglas.
	De Buellio,	13	4	Boyle.
	De Magio,	10	0	Monasternenagh.
1152.	De Benedictione Dei,	6	8	Athlone.
1153.	De Viridi ligno,	6	8	Newry.
1154.	De Kyrie Eleyson,	3	4	Odorney.
1159.	De Surio,	10	0	Inislaunaght.
1170.	De Castro Dei,	3	4	Fermoy.
1172.	De Fonte vivo,	6	8	Mawr.
1179.	De Samariâ,	3	4	Easroa.
1180.	De Jerepont,	13	4	Jerpoint.
1180.	De Choro Benedicti,	3	4	Middleton.
1181.	De Sanctâ Cruce,	6	8	Holycross.
1182.	De Portu S. Mariæ,	13	4	Dunbrody.
1183.	De Lege Dei,	8	8	Abbeyleix.

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		s.	d.	
1188.	De Inis,	13	4	Inis Courcy.
1189.	De Roseâ Valle,	6	0	Monasterevan.
1190.	De Colle Victoriæ,	13	4	Knockmoy.
1193.	De Jugo Dei,			Gray Abbey.
1198.	De Commer,	6	8	Cumber.
1200.	De Voto,	13	4	Tintern.
	De Petrâ fertili,	6	8	Corcumroe.
	De Albo Campo,	6	8	Kilcooly.
	De Flumine Dei,	6	8	Kilbeggan.
	De S. Salvatore,	13	4	Douske.
1205.	De Wethniâ,	13	4	Abingdon.
	De Grian-ard,	6	8	Abbey Lara.
	De Albo Tractu,	13	4	Tracton.
	De claro Fonte,	6	8	Macosquin.
	De Balliornan,	3	4	Loughsuidy.
1272.	De rupe Cassel,	6	8	Cashel.

The enumeration was heretofore of yet further importance, as the ancient and continued possessions of those houses were, by virtue of the Order, exempted from the payment of tithes.

In thirteen years after its foundation, the Abbot, under whose auspices it had been so raised, died, and was buried within it. In 1178, such great frosts prevailed over Ireland, that, as the Annalists say, "you might travel over all its lakes for a month." In 1186, the fortress on Lough Ke was burned, when Murrough, son of Thady O'Maolruan, King of Moylurg, was killed. Florence Mac Riagan O'Mulrony was subsequently Abbot of Boyle, from which dig-

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nity he was raised to the see of Elphin, where he died in 1195.

In the year 1200, Hugh O'Neill came with an army to support the pretensions of Cathal Crovedeargh, i. e. "the bloody-handed," son of Turlogh O'Conor, and restore him to the kingdom of Connaught. William de Burgo sent the English to oppose them, and to maintain in that government Cathal Carragh, another grandson of Roderic O'Conor, when a battle was fought between them, at Ballysadare, where Hugh O'Neill was slain, as were Donough, the son of Tiernan O'Ruarc, the chief of Moylurg, and many more. The annalists add, that John de Courcy and Walter de Lacy had marched their forces to assist Cathal Crovedearg, and that another engagement between them and Cathal Carragh, with De Burgo's forces, took place at Kilmacduagh, where John de Courcy was routed, "being obliged to go upon a lake eastward, where he was taken by the sons of Hugh de Lacy, who were advised to this proceeding by the King of England." So various and so conflicting were, at this period, the interests of parties and factions in Ireland, and so jealous and injudicious the efforts of vice-regal authority.

It is here necessary to mention, that, while the princes and rulers of the other parts of Ireland made early submission to Henry the Second, on his arrival in this country, Roderick O'Conor, then King of Connaught, maintained an independent position on the banks of his natural boundary—the Shannon.

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When Henry, however, in a few years after his return from Ireland, held a parliament at Oxford, Roderic deemed it safer, in the distracted state of his country, and yet more in the dissensions of his own family, to send emissaries thither to negociate a treaty with the English monarch. One of the emissaries, on this occasion, was that distinguished prelate, Archbishop Laurence O'Toole. These deputies being empowered to tender their master's allegiance, Henry gladly ratified a treaty, by which he purported to give to his liege, Roderic, the kingdom of Connaught, to hold it as king under him, paying therefore, as a token of subjection, a tribute of every tenth cow-hide of that country; Roderic, and his lineal descendants, accordingly, continued long after to be named in public documents Kings of Connaught. Subsequently, however, to the above contests between his family, for such titular government, King John having espoused the cause of Cathal Crovedearg, who had done fealty, and given hostages, to him in person, at Rathwyre, the monarch thereupon restored him to the rank of his ancestors, but exacted, as a consideration for this royal election, a surrender of two-thirds of his ancient kingdom (which had been, from a much earlier date, divided into three districts), and to hold the remainder at the annual rent of one hundred marks. The Lord Deputy was, at the same time, commanded to demarcate the two-thirds to be so assigned to the Crown, in those parts of the province where were

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the best towns and harbours, and which lay the most commodious for the security of the English interest; a selection which confined the family of O'Conor within the limits of the County Roscommon, which however, then included that of Sligo, and much of Leitrim. Immediately after this compact, William de Burgo, alluded to in the above notice, a warrior whose character is no less assailed by the native historians than by his own countryman, Giraldus, had royal license to introduce a colony of English into the ceded portions of Connaught, and a grant is of record, whereby the same monarch, in the last year of his reign, confirmed to Richard de Burgo all the lands of Connaught, with the appurtenances, which his father, William de Burgo, had held of the king, he yielding 300 marks yearly for the same. There is another record, preserved in the Tower of London, by which it appears, that when Henry the Third, about the year 1219, ordered a talliage to be imposed on the cities, boroughs, and demesnes of the Crown, he commanded his Deputy to "request the Kings of Connaught and Thomond, and other the Kings of Ireland, to contribute in aid of the same." Soon afterwards, however, occasion was taken to confiscate the O'Conor third, and same was, in 1227, granted as "forfeited, by the transgression of Hugh, formerly King of Connaught," to the said Richard de Burgo, in fee, by the service of ten knights.

But to return to the stricter limits of this little

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history. In 1215, Clarus Mac Moyllin O'Mulconnery, Archdeacon of Elphin, refounded the Abbey of Lough Ke, under the invocation of the Holy Trinity, for Præmonstratensian Canons, and, dying in 1251, was interred there. In 1218, the Abbey church of Boyle, though so long previously built, was, for the first time, consecrated. The Annals of the Four Masters record, in 1222, the death of Maolissa O'Flynn, Prior of Easmacneirc, soon after which the fraternity of that house removed to Church island; accordingly, the annalists of Boyle record the death of Murtogh O'Gorman, styled Prior of Inchmacnerin, in 1229. In an intermediate year (1225) died Dionysius O'Mulkyran, Archdeacon of Ardcarney, and O'Moel Brenan, Abbot of Boyle; and in 1230, the death of Maolseachlin, a priest and professor, is recorded to have occurred at the latter house, in the year of his noviciate. In this year (1230), Richard de Burgo and Carbrey O'Brien, with some English auxiliaries, came to the Curlew mountains, and there, after a sharp engagement with the native forces of Connaught, obtained the victory recorded hereafter in the "Annals of Boyle."

In 1231, Connor, the son of Donald O'Loghlen, led an army against the people of Connaught, and engaged them in battle amongst the Curlew mountains; but the leaders of both parties met, on the following day, on the borders of Lough Ke, and closed a league of friendship; immediately after which, the "Annals of Boyle" record the founding

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of a market-town at Port-na-Carrig(*a*); and, in the same year, Denis O'Mordha, who had been Bishop of Elphin, resigning his see, died in Trinity Island, as did Dhucovla, the daughter of Connor Mac Dermot, in pilgrimage, at Boyle(*b*). In 1233, Richard, the son of William de Burgo, assembled a hosting of the English, and, being joined by the Viceroy of Ireland, by Hugh de Lacy, Earl of Ulster, and John Cogan, at the head of the English of Munster, with many of the tribes of Ireland in conjunction with them, this host crossed the bridge of Athlone to Roscommon, where they burned the town, and all thence to Elphin, and thence to Boyle, and on the eve of Trinity Sunday, in particular, a party of their adherents came about the monastery of Boyle, broke the shrines, and brought away thereout the chalices, vestments, and other moveables, with great wealth, under the impression, that the fraternity had confederated with the King of Connaught to dispossess the English; "but," add the Four Masters, "the leaders of this hostile movement, repenting as of sacrilege, and concluding the circumstance would be a great reproach and shame against them, restored all that could be found of the plunder, and paid for what was not forthcoming."

(*a*) Port, or rather Phort, in Irish annals, is used to denote, not a harbour, but a fortified settlement or residence.

(*b*) Other events, connected with this Barony, particularly about this period, are to be found in the text of the "Annals of Boyle," and, therefore, not here repeated.

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In 1234, Maolissa, son of Daniel O'Gormhgaille, died Prior of Inchmacnerin, as did Gelasius O'Gibellan, an anchorite in the island of the Holy Trinity. The Annals of Boyle commemorate so remarkable a frost in this year, that men, horses, and cattle, passed freely over Lough Ke, and other lakes of this vicinity. In 1237, the Lord Justice led an expedition against Fedlim O'Conor, overran all Connaught as far as Sligo, where he vanquished Fedlim, with his confederates, O'Donnell and Mac Dermot; took many prisoners, and obtained great spoil, which he carried back, over the Curlew mountains, into Moylurg. In the following year, Fedlim, in the re-action of hostility, crossed the Curlew mountains, back to his own country, and, accompanied by the septs of O'Reilly and Mac Ranell (Reynolds), achieved the vengeance noted in the "Annals of Boyle." In 1239, Lasair Fina, the daughter of Cathal Crovedearg, and wife of O'Donnel, granted to the Abbey on Lough Ke, the half townland of Rosburn, being part of the estates assigned to her in dower.

In 1240, Giollananove O'Dreain died Dean of the Abbey of Ardcarney; in two years after which, Brian, of the O'Dowda sept, chief of Tyreragh, Tyrawley, and Erris, was killed, when on a journey of pilgrimage to the Abbey of Boyle. In this latter year (1242), Cuconagh O'Reilly ravaged and laid waste the country about Ardcarney(*a*), and, in the

(*a*) Registry of the O'Reillys, MS.

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next year, Teigue O'Conor, grandson of Cathal Crovedearg, who had been previously a prisoner with the O'Reillys, having been released by the chief of that sept, came to the Abbey of Boyle, at the head of some forces, and, passing over to the mansion of Mac Dermot of the Rock, took prisoner Cormac, the son of Timothy Mac Dermot, and carrying off the wife of the chief, delivered her up, as he had conditioned, to Cuconagh O'Reilly, by way of ransom for himself. Teigue then went, with a few men, intending to hold a meeting with Cuconagh, by whose direction he was treacherously seized, his son killed, and his own eyes put out. In 1245, the aforesaid Cormac Mac Dermot died, in the monastic habit, and was buried in the Abbey of Boyle; in 1247, that of Ardcarney was burned by the English, and, in 1250, a part of the religious community of White Canons of the Order of St. Francis, theretofore established in the island of the Holy Trinity, on Lough Ke, was removed by Clarus Mac Moilin, to the island of the same name on Lough Oughtair, in Brefny, where a foundation was granted to them by Cathal O'Reilly; at which period of this severance, it is to be remarked, the Annals of the elder establishment, pre-eminently styled the "Annals of Lough Ke" commence. In the latter year died Donough O'Daly, Abbot of Boyle, a poet and hymnist, accounted so superior in his day, that he was styled, from the sweetness of his verses, the "Ovid of Ireland;" he left behind him several excellent

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verses, chiefly on divine subjects, which, even to the present time, are familiarly repeated by the people in various parts of the country, and some of his poems are yet extant in writing.

About the year 1252, Richard de Burgo granted to Hugh de Lacy, five cantreds of his lands of Connaught, viz.: the cantred of Coran, Carrick, Drumcliffe, Terfither-O'Mulloy, Leney, and Cliflimeth. In the ensuing year, the daughter of the Earl of Ulster, wife of Milo Costello, dying, was interred, with great solemnity, in the Abbey of Boyle; and in 1256, it is related that the English, having collected a numerous army, came to Keish-Coran, where they encamped, and remained for some days, ravaging all the churches of that country. The O'Reillys also marched to Port-na-Craine, on Lough Allen, whither the English could not come to meet them, dreading Hugh O'Conor, who was then stationed at Kilsessin, in Uachtar-Tire, waiting the motion of both these hosts, to know which he might attack first with the greater advantage; however, upon knowing where the O'Reillys were stationed, Hugh entered into council with O'Ruarc, who was then with him, when they resolved, leaving their steeds, armour, and military attire in Kilsessin, to march on foot eastward of the Shannon, and thus surprise the O'Reillys. They accordingly commenced their progress in company; but, being informed that the O'Reillys had quitted their station, they dispatched the light-armed troops and infantry of the English to pursue and overtake them.

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About the year 1262, Hugh O'Conor, claiming the privileges of King of Connaught, took possession of the episcopal revenues within the province, but, on representation of this injustice made to Henry the Third, by especial letters of record in the Tower of London, as well from Joan, Queen of Castile, as from Lewis, King of France, the Church property was ordered to be restored. In 1263, Ængus O'Clumain, theretofore Bishop of Achonry, having voluntarily resigned his see, and taken upon him the monastic habit, died in the Abbey of Boyle, "worn out with age and infirmities," as did David O'Finn, Abbot of said house. In 1276, by the authority of a general Chapter of the Cistercian Order, the Abbots of Boyle, of Samaria (Easroa), De Beatitudine (Bective), and De Albo Tractu (Tracton), were ordered to repair, without delay, to a place where was formerly situated the Abbey de Valle Dei (Killeny), a daughter of Jerpoint, snd to inquire whether the lands appertaining thereto would be sufficient for its support; if so, to recover them all into the possession of that Abbey, especially as there were there interred the bodies of many great men, and others; and the Abbot of Jerpoint was further enjoined, under such circumstances, to send thither a fraternity, and keep it under his control; but, if the said lands should not be so sufficient, then to recover them, with all their buildings, into the possession of the Abbot of Jerpoint(*a*). It had been previously united to the Cis-

(*a*) Thesaurus Novus, &c., par Martene et Durand.

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tercian church of Graignamanagh, whose brotherhood was, by the above mandate, prohibited from resisting the requisition. In the following year, at another Chapter of the same Order, it was decreed that the Abbot of Boyle should be deposed, by reason of his not having paid the tenths chargeable upon him(*a*).

"In 1278," writes Hanmer, "there rose civil wars, no better than rebellion, between Mac Dermot, of Moylurg, and Cahir O'Conor, King of Connaught, where there was great slaughter and bloodshed on both sides, and the King of Connaught slain. Raphael Holinshed, in his Irish Collection, thinketh that there were slain at that time above two thousand persons. The King of England, hearing thereof, was mightily displeased with the Lord Justice, and sent for him unto England, to yield reason why he would permit such shameful enormities under his government. The Deputy, however, satisfied the king that all was not true that he was charged withal, and for further contentment, yielded this reason, that, in policy, he thought it expedient to wink at one knave cutting off another, and that would save the King's coffers, and purchase peace to the land, whereat the King smiled, and bid him return to Ireland." About this time Connaught appears to have been divided into two counties, Connaught, properly so called, comprising the modern counties of Clare, Galway, and Mayo; and Roscommon, comprising

(*a*) Thesaurus Novus, &c., par Martene et Durand.

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those of Roscommon, Sligo, and Leitrim; the King appointed separate sheriffs for each, Moylurg being evidently in the heart of the latter division.

In 1280, died Matthew, son of Manus O'Conor, Abbot of Boyle, while the Annals of Inisfallen record, at the following year, an awful continuance of snow all over Ireland. In 1284, Gelasius, a member of the O'Conor family, a Premonstratensian friar, and Abbot of the religious house on Trinity Island, Lough Ke, was appointed Bishop of Elphin. In 1291, Edra Magrath died, Abbot of Lough Ke monastery, and in 1296 Maolseachlin Mac Brien Mac Dermot, Abbot of Boyle, was raised to the see of Elphin. This latter prelate died at Rome, about the close of the year 1302, when Donat O'Flanagan, then Abbot of Boyle, was elected to the see so vacated, and he was succeeded in the abbacy by Laurence O'Loughnan, afterwards Abbot of Knockmoy, and who died Bishop of Kilmacduagh in 1306. In 1303, the Prior of Kilmainham sued the Abbot of the religious house on Lough Ke, for certain rights of advowson, and in the same year Donogh O'Flanagan, Abbot of Boyle, was promoted to the See of Elphin, a man whom the Annalists describe as "famous for devotion, hospitality, and many other good parts belonging to his function, throughout all Europe; one that never refused any human being for meat or clothes; one that maintained, protected, and made peace between the inhabitants of the Province of Connaught; one of wisdom and good delivery to maintain any thing he

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took in hand; one charitable and free hearted to all men." He died in his see, in 1308, when Charles O'Conor, then Abbot of the church of Lough Ke, was elected to the vacant bishopric, to which he was consecrated, and kept possession thereof for upwards of three years, but, the Pope having annulled his election, he was ultimately obliged to return to the government of his abbey, in which he died, at an advanced age, in 1343. In 1309, there was a great hosting by Donough, son of Turlough, the son of Teigue O'Brien, and in aid of William de Burgo, in Connaught; their forces proceeded to the Abbey of Boyle, and destroyed a great quantity of corn in the surrounding country. In 1315, Rory O'Conor pillaged the same religious house, immediately after which occurred the memorable invasion of Ireland, by Edward Bruce, to which he was so mainly invited by Mac Dermot of Moylurg, as stated in the memoir of that family. In the first break out of this rebellion, Sir William de Burgo was taken prisoner, and carried into Scotland, where, leaving his sons as hostages, he obtained his liberty, and returned to Ireland in 1316; which, as soon as Phelim O'Conor, who styled himself King of Connaught, understood, he assembled all his forces, assisted by O'Brien, Prince of Thomond, and many others, in order to expel him from the country, and, marching towards Athenry to meet him and his allies (Lord Bermingham and the English of the province), they came to an engagement, where the Irish were totally routed,

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with the loss of their King, Phelim, Teigue O'Kelly, King of Hymany, and twenty-eight other chiefs; after which the victor marched his army to Siolmurry, near Sligo, where all the native chiefs agreed to make peace with him, except Mac Dermot, to punish whose obstinacy he invaded and destroyed the country of Moylurg, and, with the spoils of the foray, the walls of Athenry are said to have been built.

In 1344, Murchadh, son of Mulloy O'Hara, died, Abbot of Boyle, when he was about to be elected to the Episcopal throne of Achonry. In 1351, Friar Reginald, Abbot of the Cistercian house of Mellefont, was found guilty of having collected, contrary to the Statute, and the existing state of hostility with France, within the previous two years, from his own convent, and from the Cistercian houses of Boyle, Knockmoy, Bectiff, and Cashel, the sum of 664 florins, and remitted half thereof to the Abbot and fraternity of Clairvaux. In 1355, died Mac-Galladowell, generally called the Irish Prior of Trinity Church, in Lough Ke; and in 1380, died another Abbot of this island, who was son of Mac Dermott Roe, as did Mac David, Abbot of Boyle, in 1383, "a charitable and humane gentleman." In 1395 flourished O'Duigenan, bard to the Mac Dermots of Moylurg, and author of sundry poems in praise of their country, and of Hugh Mac Dermot, then chief of their tribe, copies of some of which are yet extant. In 1398, Ferrall Mac Dermot, Lord of Moylurg, plundered the Abbey of Boyle, and in the fol-

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lowing year, a despatch of the Lord Deputy announced to the King, that he could get nothing out of the counties of Kilkenny, Carlow, Waterford, Kerry, Limerick, Connaught, or Roscommon, for want of obedience and due execution of the law, and by reason of the rebellion and wars, as well of His Majesty's enemies as of his subjects.

In 1419, William, son of Malachy O'Kelly, mustered a powerful force of the Irish chieftains, to invade Clanrickard. Amongst the chiefs, who joined in that expedition, are mentioned Donogh O'Kelly, Dynast of Hy-Maine; Cahill Dhu O'Conor, "heir apparent to the throne of Connaught; Tumultagh Mac Dermot, heir apparent to the sovereignty of Moylurg," &c., &c. In 1441, Donald O'Mochair died, Abbot of Boyle, as did Thady, the son of Thady, at Rome, in 1444; and in 1449, on the 15th of October, in the third year of the pontificate of Nicholas the Fifth, Cornelius, Abbot of the same house, was promoted by that pontiff to the see of Achonry. In 1458, Timothy Mac Dermot, King of Moylurg, was interred in the Abbey of Boyle, and in 1466, that of Lough Ke (on Trinity Island) was consumed by accidental fire(*a*), but was rebuilt, and continued until the general dissolution. To about this period may be referred a retrospective remark of Edmund Spencer, that designates the state of this vicinity, in a manner, by metes and bounds: "When the divi-

(*a*) Annals of Firbis, MSS.

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sion between the two houses of York and Lancaster arose for the Crown of England, the great English lords and gentlemen, which had great possessions in Ireland, repaired over hither into England, some to succour their friends here, and to strengthen their party for to obtain the Crown; others to defend their lands and possessions here, against such as hovered after the same, upon hope of the alteration of that kingdom, and success of that side which they favoured and affected. Then the Irish, whom before they had banished into the mountains, where they lived only upon white meats, as it is recorded, seeing now their lands so dispeopled and weakened, came down into all the plains adjoining, and, thence expelling those few English that remained, repossessed them again, since which they have remained in them, and, growing greater, have brought under them many of the English, which were before their lords. This was one of the occasions, by which all those countries, which, lying near unto any mountains or Irish deserts, had been planted with any English, were shortly displanted and lost; as, namely, in Munster, all the lands adjoining unto Slieve-Logher, Arlo, and the Bog of Allen; in Connaught, all the countries bordering upon the Curlews, Monasteriolis, and O'Rourke's country; in Leinster, all the lands bordering upon the mountains of Glenmolaur, unto Shillelagh, unto the Brackenagh, and Polmonte; in Ulster, all the countries near unto Tyrconnel, Tyrone, and the Scots."

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In 1475, Hugh Ruadh O'Donnell, "to be revenged for his father, Niall Garve, on the English," desolated Meath, and afterwards Clanrickard, and the country of Costello, whence he returned over the plains of Moylurg, to his own country, "being triumphant, and gaining the victory in all his undertakings." In a state document of 1515, enumerating the names of "the chief Irish regions and countries of Connaught, and the chief captains of the same," those in this vicinity are, with their available forces, on muster, stated to be: O'Conor, Lord of that portion, 120 horse, 160 galloglasses, and 300 kerns; O'Gara, Lord of Coolavin, 14 horse and 100 kerns; O'Hara, Lord of Leney, 61 horse and 60 kerns; M'Manus Fionnocher, Lord of Carrabry, 40 horse, 80 galloglasses, and 100 kerns; O'Ruarc, of West Brefny, 40 horse, 80 galloglasses, and 300 kerns; M'Ranell, of Munter-iolis, 8 horse and 300 kerns; O'Reilly, of Brefny, 60 horse, 80 galloglasses, and 400 kerns; Mac Dermot, of Moylurg, 40 horse, 80 galloglasses, and 200 kerns, &c., &c., &c.—making a total of, from Connaught, 530 horse, 800 galloglasses, and 3340 kerns.

In 1565, during the government of Sir Henry Sydney, Roscommon, as after bounded and defined, was constituted a county, subject to the Presidency of Connaught; but, although Sheriffs, and other ministers of the law, were placed therein, Her Majesty declined, as had her Royal predecessors, to send justices of assize into the country, and left its inhabitants to the discretion of a governor, who was armed with all

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the power of the State—a long-continued defect of Irish government, which Sir John Davis, the talented Attorney-General of King James the First, flatteringly contrasts with the improvement in the days of his royal master. Then, as he writes, "the whole realm being divided into shires, and every bordering territory, whereof any doubt was made, in what county the same should lie, being added or reduced to a county certain, the streams of the public justice were derived into every part of the kingdom, and the benefit and protection of the law of England communicated to all, as well Irish as English, without distinction or respect of persons; by reason whereof, the work of deriving the public justice grew so great, as that there was 'magna messis, sed operarii pauci;' and therefore the number of the judges on every bench was increased, which do now every half year, like good planets, in their several spheres or circuits, carry the light and influence of justice round about the kingdom; whereas the circuits, in former times, went round about the Pale, like the circuit of the cynosura about the Pole." So little, indeed, was this part of Ireland known, immediately previous to the time, when the present County of Roscommon was constituted, that, in a map delineated in the reign of Henry the Eighth, Boyle is marked as standing on the River Moy, not far from Ballymote, while the Suck is set down as flowing out of Lough Gara; and the territory of Mac William Oughter as encroaching on Moylurg.

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At the time of the dissolution of monasteries, Tumultagh Mac Dermot was the last recognized Abbot of Boyle; and, in 1570, Queen Elizabeth demised to Patrick Cusack, of Gerardstown, in the County of Meath, as part of the previous possessions of that religious house, the grange of Mowynwy, the grange of O'Fallon, and the grange of Tulskirrie. His interest therein was afterwards forfeited. An inquisition, taken in the following year, finds that the same Abbey had been seised of the grange of Maghermoney, in the country of Clanrickard, containing 60 acres of arable land, and 100 of pasture and bog; also of the grange of O'Fallon, in O'Fallon's country, containing a castle, 40 acres of arable, 40 of pasture, wood, underwood, and bog; and also of the townland of Tullestermy, containing 49 acres of arable, and 30 of pasturable mountain.

In 1576, Sir Henry Sydney, writing from Galway to the Earl of Ormond, says, "I expected, long ere this, that your company had been remaining in the plains of Connaught, there to have resisted the force of the Scots, as I writ to my Lord Treasurer they should do, and be ready at his appointment, as occasion required, to join their forces with his in any exploit that should be made, or else, according to my former direction, they should have tarried for me at the Curlew foot. Their long stay, chiefly that I heard not from them, hath been the occasion of my tarrying here longer than otherwise I had either determined or would have done, to some hindrance of the service, in losing so

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much time; and I rather directed them to these places, because I would have them to hold some dealings with the Scots, thereby to have won your Lordship some honour; since the Scots will not abide the places near where I come, I would have driven them into their laps, or have been met withal by some other bands or companies that I dispersed abroad in like sort"(*a*). In 1578, "the lord of Connaught, and O'Rourke," says Morrison, "made a composition for their lands with Sir Nicholas Malby, governor of that province, wherein they were content to yield the Queen so large a rent, and such services, both of labourers, to work upon occasion of fortifying, and of horse and foot, to serve upon occasion of war, that their minds seemed not yet to be alienated from their wonted awe and reverence for the Crown of England." Accordingly, the Lord Deputy and Council made their report to England: "Connaught, we learn from Sir Nicholas Malby, the Colonel who presently is there, is quiet, and in tune, and so will continue, if there be any that hath an eye unto them." Many immediately subsequent reports, from this Sir Nicholas Malby to the Earl of Leicester, relative to his services in Connaught, and against the Scots, and otherwise about affairs in Ireland, are preserved in the British Museum.

In 1580, Gelasius O'Quillenan, who assumed the

(*a*) Collins's State Letters, &c., vol. i. p. 390.

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style of "Abbot of Boyle," suffered death, in the persecutions of the period. The influence attached to the title, and the continuance of its assumption, are thus alluded to by Alemande, in his "*Histoire Monastique d'Irland:*" "On remarque, encore que presque tous les Abbez de Boyle ont esté Evesques, ils n'avoient cependant pas la prerogative d'estre Pairs Ecclesiastiques, et d'avoir seance dans les Parlemens d'Irland. Enfin, il y a toujours des Abbez Catholiques de Boyle, qui vivent incognito, quand ils sont en Irlande." In 1584, an inquisition having been taken, relative to the possessions of the religious house of Franciscans at Knockvicar, stated therein as lying within Moylurg, the Mac Dermots' country, it was found theretofore seised of a cartron, or one-fourth part of a quarter of land, adjoining the priory, with the moiety of another quarter, in the parish of Ardcarne, the whole containing 40 acres of arable, pasture, and bog, with the appurtenances, and the tithes of the same, and an eel weir on the river of Boyle, all valued at 13*s.* 4*d.* annually, besides reprises; all which premises were afterwards granted to William Crowe. In this latter year, another inquisition was taken, in reference to a second Franciscan establishment, described as situate at Caldrywolagh, in Moylurg, *alias* Mac Dermot's country, and having appropriate to it, one small quarter, comprising 60 acres, arable, pasture, and bog, with the appurtenances and tithes, of the annual value of 13*s.* 4*d.*, but which, as the finding adds, by reason of the war, are waste, and long uncultivated.

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In 1585 occurred that memorable composition between the English Government and the old native Irish of Connaught, which it was the grand object of Perrot's administration to effectuate, and whereby they agreed to surrender their properties, and, on receiving them back, to hold them thenceforth of the Queen, *in capite*, by English tenure. Perrot was eminently successful in this province. Harassed by the perpetual aggressions of the warlike English families, who had settled in the chief towns, and fenced themselves round with formidable castles and entrenchments; divided also by family feuds, and humbled in their honours and power, the native chieftains gladly hearkened to Perrot's proposals, in the hope of a settled form of government, and, perhaps, of revenge, as well as of defence against the Anglo-Irish lords, their rivals in power, and their superiors in force and discipline. The counterpart of Perrot's original composition was confided to the custody of the O'Conor family, and so preserved, until carried over, by the late Doctor Charles O'Conor, to enrich the Manuscripts at Stowe.—In this composition, the Barony of Boyle, otherwise called Moylurg, is stated to be the property of Mac Dermot, with the exception of lands which are specified as belonging to the Queen, and to the Church. Immediately afterwards, a very general summons issued through Ireland, requiring the attendance of the native chiefs and nobles at a Parliament, to be held in the ensuing year, at Dublin; "for most of the princi-

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pal men of the whole kingdom were then obedient to the Sovereign, wherefore they all assembled, face to face, in Dublin, as was ordered"(*a*). In that assembly, amongst the representatives of "the rough district of Connaught," was "Brian O'Ruarc, son of Brian, the son of Eogan O'Ruarc; and thither came the Siol-Muireadh, and the chiefs of their different septs, viz.: O'Conor Don, i.e. Hugh, son of Diarmid, son of Cairbre, son of Eogan, son of Phelim O'Connor; O'Conor Roe, i. e., Teigue Oge, son of Teigue Buoy, son of Cathal Roe; a deputy from Mac Dermot of Moylurg, viz., Brian, son of Rory, son of Teigue, son of Rory Oge; for Mac Dermot himself, viz., Teigue, son of Eogan, was then a very old man, enfeebled with age," &c. &c. The sentiments of regard and confidence, with which the Irish chiefs met their Viceroy, on all these occasions, do equal credit to both parties; but the conduct of this wise and excellent Deputy too soon awakened all the hostility of political intrigue, and he was, ultimately, obliged to resign the government. Consequent upon this good feeling, and the aforesaid composition, was the division of Connaught into six counties, Clare being, as it should, by natural limits, accounted one of them. The baronies were also created; and the old principal families affected to surrender the exorbitant power they had hitherto exerted; but, experience having too soon proved, that the promised

(*a*) Annals of the Four Masters.

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protection was inadequately afforded, they returned to their Irish customs, and easily prevailed on their septs to be governed by their Brehon laws.—About this period, also, a taxation was made of the benefices within the diocese of Elphin, when the following valuations to the First Fruits were charged, within the Barony of Boyle:

	£	s.	d.
Vicarage of Estersnow . . .	0	13	4
Vicarage of Ardcarne . . .	1	10	0
Vicarage of Tumna	1	0	0
Rectory of Ardcarne . . .	4	0	0
Vicarage of Killummod . .	0	5	0

In 1586, an inquisition was taken, as to the possessions of the House of Canons Regular, at Inchmacnerin (on Church Island), on Lough Ke, when it was found to have, appertaining to it, in a certain island of one acre there, a ruinous church, and the walls of two decayed houses, and 3 quarters of land, called "the 3 quarters of the church of Drum," in the country of Moylurg, on the banks of the said Lough; and a quarter of wood and mountain, part of the great hill or mountain, called "the Curlew," in the same country, with the tithes of the said four quarters, valued annually at 20*s.*; the vicarage of Ballynagrey, *alias* Killmagry, being the fourth part of the tithes and altarages, valued only at the curate's stipend; the vicarage of Dromyne, valued at the same; the vicarage of the half townland of Aghocarre, and the half townland of Ballymollany, *alias* Ballymaran, all

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in this county, and of the same value; the townland of Kilkerre, being 4 quarters of land, with their tithes, in the Barony of Tyrerill, valued, besides reprises, at 20*s.*; the moiety of a quarter of land in Drumdonay, with the tithes, of the same value, besides reprises, 2*s.* 6*d.*; the rectory of Aghanagh, viz. two parts of the tithes, altarages, &c., value 13*s.* 4*d.*; the rectory of Killmacallan, value 13*s.* 4*d.*; the rectory of Culea, value, besides reprises, 6*s.* 8*d.*; the half townland of Kilmacroy, containing two quarters of land, with the tithes thereof, value 10*s.*; all in the County of Sligo: it was also found, that certain parcels of land, with the tithes, in the country of O'Conor Roe, in the County Roscommon, called Loughcaske and Killendown, containing one quarter and a third of a quarter, with the tithes of the same, did belong to this abbey (although, on account of their great extent, and the incivility of the country, they were concealed), annual value 13*s.* 4*d.* sterling; the said several valuations being all Irish money. These lands, tithes, &c., were, subsequently, at first, leased for 21 years, to William Taaffe, and, on the expiration of his interest, to Martin Lisle, for a like term(*a*); but the whole interest therein, for ever, was, by Royal Patent, of the 20th November, 1617, conveyed to Sir John King. In the same year, Sir Richard Bingham, governor of Connaught, having been joined, at Boyle, by Sir Thomas L'Estrange,

(*a*) Patent Roll, 1 James I.

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"with the rising out of the country," bivouacked, with his forces, in the Curlew mountains, waiting support from the Lord Deputy, before he should march against the enemy in the North. It was on this occasion, that the Scottish islanders, whom the sept of the Burkes had invited to invade Connaught, in the expectation of having part of that province to inhabit after the expulsion of the English, having made their way over O'Ruarc's country, towards the Curlews, with the intention of passing that way into Mayo, came, on a certain dark and tempestuous night, near Sir Richard's forces, who, upon notice that they were on foot, drew out to reconnoitre them, when he approached so near as to receive several arrows from their bowmen, but, being armed under his cassock, he sustained no injury, and the enemy passed on, seeming yet unwilling to give him fight, and escaped by a ford unknown(*a*). Sir Richard afterwards marching to Ardnaree, signally defeated the rebels there. The face of the whole country, about the Curlews, was, at this time, bog and wood.

In 1588, Queen Elizabeth granted to Sir Edward Waterhouse, the office of Supervisor of the "Shannon," with power to break down all illegally erected weirs; he, on his part, being bound to maintain yearly, four great boats, well built and fitted out, "continually to be employed on the said river, in

(*a*) Perrot's Government of Ireland, p. 103.

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the Queen's service, for transporting men, soldiers, munition, and provisions, to the countries and lands of O'Ruarc, Mac Dermot, O'Conor Don"(*a*), &c. In the following year, a lease of the Abbey of Boyle was granted to William Usher, at the annual rent of £14 16*s.* 4*d.*; and, in 1590, an inquisition having been taken, as to the possessions of the nunnery of Ardcarne, which was itself a cell to the Abbey of Kilcreunata, in the County of Galway, it was found, that this nunnery was built on a townland called Farnagalliagh, containing 8 acres of arable and pasture, annual value, besides reprises, 1*s.* 8*d.*; and that within the precincts were a church, and two houses of stone; that the Abbess was also seised of 4 acres of arable and pasture, and 4 of copse wood, called Crevenagalliagh, adjoining Ardcarne, annual value, besides reprises, 1*s.* 8*d.*; and of 12 acres of arable and pasture, called Clonnagalliagh, in the parish of Isertsnow, annual value, besides reprises, 2*s.* 8*d.* The following rectories were also appropriated to the Abbess: Ardcarne (viz., the moiety of all the tithes, excepting those in the three townlands of Long-fort), which extendeth, generally, to three couples of corn, annual value, besides reprises, 13*s.* 4*d.*; the other moiety belongeth to the chapel or church of Imlagh-broco-tilis Cloncouse, in the Barony of Ballintobber, which is, in general, extended to one couple of corn, annual value, besides reprises, 3*s.* 4*d.*;

(*a*) Patent Roll, 31 Eliz., in Rolls' Office.

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and the rectory of Corcoghlan, or Ardcoghlan, in the Barony or County of Roscommon, which extends into the parishes of Kiltrustan, Clonfinlough, and Templeroe, viz., all the tithes, annual value, besides reprises, 40*s.*; all which were afterwards granted to Richard Earl of Clanrickard." Other inquisitions detail the possessions of the religious house of Inchmacnerin, in Clonnagalliagh, Clonafinlough, Kilfequin, and Kilgefin, which were subsequently granted to the Provost and Fellows of Trinity College. Inquisitions were soon afterwards taken, relative to the estates and tithes appertaining to the Abbey of Boyle, in the County of Galway, when it was found seised, at the time of the dissolution, of the townland of Grange Monvoye, *alias* Moynvoy or Monwy, *alias* Magherie Monvoye, with the five quarters of Derrycleymanagh, Corobane, Carrownetrahane, Carrownecross, and Racally, and the cartron of the Grange, with all their tithes, in the Barony of Kilconnell, in Mannagh, in O'Kelly's country, in the County of Galway, but not in Clanrickard's country; Mannagh and Clanrickard being distinct countries, Clanrickard belonging to Mac William Oughter, and Mannagh to O'Kelly; the said Abbot was also seised of a quarter of land, with the tithes thereof, called Gortnamannagh, in Clanrickard's country. A large portion of the above lands was, subsequently, granted to Dominick Browne; while others passed, by patent, to the Provost and Burgesses of Athenry.

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In 1592, Hugh Maguire, with a large body of his adherents, marched along the western shore of Lough Allen, with the object of opposing Sir Richard Bingham, the governor of Connaught; while, somewhat to the north, the discomfited followers of Sir George Bingham retreated into that province, after their defeat, near Enniskillen(*a*). This knight was a brother of the before-mentioned Sir Richard Bingham, under whom he served in the Irish wars, and was, in 1596, governor of Sligo, where he was, some years afterwards, killed by Ulick de Burgh, an ensign, who delivered up the castle to O'Donnell. Sir George, as appears from the "Obits of Christ Church," Dublin, was buried in that cathedral, 27th September, 1599. "The County of Roscommon," writes Edmund Spencer, about this time, "saving that which pertaineth to the House of Roscommon, and some few other English, there lately seated, is wholly like to escheat to Her Majesty, saving those portions of English inhabitants; and even those English do, as I understand by them, pay as much rent to Her Majesty, as is set upon those in Ulster, counting their composition money therewithal. This County of Roscommon, containing 1,200 plowlands, as it is accompted, amounteth to £2,400 by the year"(*b*).

(*a*) Life of Red Hugh O'Donnel, MS. This was the individual, who, as hereafter mentioned, caused the roads to be cut in the Curlew mountains, before his time impassable. Sir John Bingham was another brother; he died in 1632, and was buried at Castlebar.

(*b*) View of the State of Ireland, p. 205.

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In 1595, an inquisition was taken, concerning Kilronan, when it was found, that there had been there "an hospital, termon-erenagh, or corbeship, endowed with four quarters of land." Through this district, in that year, marched the celebrated Irish chieftain, Red Hugh O'Donnell, in order to harass the English Government; "he passed, with his army, to the south, by Lough Meelagh, by the borders of Brefny, to Bragh-Slieve, and thence to Tir-Tuathail, where he encamped until morning. On the morrow he passed over the deserts and wastes of the country, without being observed or heard, to the river of Boyle, on the east of Lough Ke. The army crossed the river in the very beginning of the night, at the place called "the bridge of the Vicar's hill" (Knock-Vicar); from that, by a winding way, through Moylurg, until they arrived, by the break of day, at the Croghan of Rath-Ai"(*a*), from which O'Donnel sent out his foraging parties in every direction, while he lay himself at Elphin. The governor of Connaught, Sir Richard Bingham, having received notice of these proceedings, assembled his English forces "at the monastery of Boyle," thinking that there he might intercept O'Donnel's return; but that chief disappointed him, by crossing the Shannon into Leitrim, at the ford of Kill-Trenain, to Monasteriolis, and thus carried off his prey, without interruption, into Tyrconnel. Sir Richard Bingham, it may be

(*a*) MS. Life of Red Hugh O'Donnel.

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here mentioned, was removed, immediately after, from the government of Connaught, and died, at Dublin, in 1598, when his body, having been brought over to England, was interred in Westminster Abbey, in the south aisle, near the monument of Sir Cloudesly Shovel, where a tablet to his memory thus historically records his achievements:

"*To the Glory of the Lord of Hosts.* Hereunder resteth Sir Richard Bingham, knight, of the ancient family of the Binghams of Bingham-Melcomb, in the County of Dorset, who, from his youth, was trained up in military affairs, and served, in the time of Queen Mary, at St. Quintin's, in the western islands of Scotland, and in Britain: in the time of Queen Elizabeth, at Leith in Scotland; in the Isle of Candy under the Venetians; at Cabo Chrio; at the famous battle of Lepanto, against the Turks; in the civil wars of France; in the Netherlands; and at Smerwick, where the Romans and Irish were vanquished. After he was made Governor of Connaught, where he overthrew the Irish Scots, expelled the traitorous O'Rourke, suppressed divers rebellions, and that with small charges to Her Majesty, maintaining that province in a flourishing state by the space of thirteen years: finally, for his good service, was made Marshal of Ireland, and General of Leinster, where, at Dublin, in an assured faith in Christ, he ended this transitory life, the 19th of January, 1598, æt. 70."

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"This is done by Sir John Bingley, sometime his servant."

In the beginning of 1596, O'Donnel again assembled his forces, to harass the English, and, entering Connaught by the line of his former route, came to Bragh-Slieve, where, encamping for one night among the mountains, he determined on attacking the English garrison within the Abbey of Boyle. To effect this object, he directed a detachment to drive off the cattle which the English had, in order to decoy them, and draw them out of the enclosure and walls of the monastery, so as to enable his own forces to get between them and their fortress. O'Donnel himself proceeded to their aid by the borders of Lough Arrow, and that part of the Curlews which approximated to Boyle. "The English, that were at Newport, between Lough Ke and Lough Arrow, observed the speaking of the army as they passed, and they instantly began to discharge their heavy leaden balls, and to burn their powder, in order to give intelligence to those in the monastery. When O'Donnell had passed the South Curlews, he halted in a retired wood which was near the river, where he remained in ambush for the English until sunrise;" but soon perceiving that the decoy he had designed was unsuccessful, he thereupon "passed with his soldiers straightforward through Magh-Ai, which was completely cleared by him, and, seizing upon all the cattle that had escaped the first spoiling, he proceeded to the brink of the Shannon, which he

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crossed, and encamped at Monasteriolis"(*a*). After this, aided by an auxiliary force of 600 Scots, commanded by Mac Leod of Ara, O'Donnell again invaded the northern parts of Connaught, with ruinous results to the English, and even held a species of Court of Claims, where the contending lords of the country were content to take their titles at his dispensation. In this way he caused "Teigue the swarthy, the son of Owen O'Dowd, to be proclaimed chief of Tir Fiachragh, and gave the title of O'Kelly to Ferdorcha, son of Callaghan, son of Donald, son of Hugh. He also gave the title of Mac Dermot of Moylurg to Conor, son of Teigue, son of Owen; that of Mac Donough of Tir-Oliolla to Maurice the blind, son of Teigue; that of Mac Donough of Coran to Rory, son of Hugh; and of O'Hara Riavach to Felim, son of Corcashel. He likewise fixed O'Ruarc and Mac Dermot in their respective patrimonies, they having been expelled by the English; and not to those only, but to every one of the Irish of Connaught who were similarly circumstanced, did he render a like service." In 1597 this too-justly exasperated and implacable enemy of English government, as administered in Ireland, led another foray into Connaught, took many prisoners, and much valuable spoil, and, before his return to his own country, encountering O'Conor Sligo, and a strong army of English and Irish, he defeated them with

(*a*) MS. "Life of Red Hugh O'Donnel."

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great slaughter. He then returned to Tyrconnel, and on his departure Sir Conyers Clifford, who, on the removal of Sir Richard Bingham (an individual particularly odious to the Irish), was appointed Governor and President of Connaught, collected all the forces he could to support O'Conor, and that party of the Burkes who opposed Red Hugh. With these forces the Deputy proceeded to attack Mac William Burke, and Rory O'Donnel, who, having intelligence of their movements, collected the cattle of the country, and though, in comparison to the English and their adherents, O'Donnel's confederates were few, they succeeded in driving off the spoil into Tyrconnel, but not without some loss of men. The Lord Justice thereupon ordered Sir Conyers to pursue them with all his forces, and to destroy and plunder that district. The place appointed for the assembling of these forces was Boyle ; there they mustered twenty-two regiments of infantry, and ten regiments of cavalry, armed with coats of mail, and all arms, ammunition, and other necessaries.

From Boyle the army of Sir Conyers marched to Sligo, and thence to the River Erne, after crossing which by a ford, they were vigorously opposed by O'Donnel's troops, when Morogh O'Brien, Baron of Inchiquin, was killed by a musket-ball ; thence the Governor marched to Easroa, near Ballyshannon, and, fixing his head-quarters in its monastery, he besieged Ballyshannon, but in this attempt met with unexpected resistance, and had numbers of his best

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troops and officers killed or wounded; whereupon he was forced to make a precipitate retreat, subject to the close pursuit of O'Donnel, and the friends who had crowded to his assistance from all quarters. Not long after this, Red Hugh, receiving intelligence that the Lord Justice (Lord Brough), who had assumed the command of the army of the north, was on his march with a powerful army to attack O'Neill, again collected his forces, and marched to the assistance of that chieftain, whom he joined before the English could reach Armagh. The two armies soon encountered, when the Earl of Kildare, who was with the Lord Justice, was killed, and the English army defeated. The Lord Justice, baffled in his intentions, and himself severely wounded, returned towards Dublin, but died of his wounds at Newry. Red Hugh thereupon again marched into Connaught, and plundered and destroyed the territories of O'Conor Roe, and other chiefs who had joined with Sir Conyers. In 1598 he came into the County of Sligo, and, partly by threats and partly by persuasions, prevailed upon the Mac Donoughs to sell the town and castle of Ballymote to him and his successors for ever, for £400 in money and 300 cows; the town being accordingly delivered up to him, he made it his principal residence during the remainder of his life. In the following year (not, however, without many achievements of active warfare in the interval, but in scenes not connected with this history), he received intelligence, that Sir Conyers Clifford was preparing

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to attack him with a numerous host of English, assisted by O'Conor Sligo and all his adherents; upon hearing which O'Donnel assembled all his forces at Ballymote, and his first step was to lay close siege to O'Conor Sligo, in the castle of Culmine, on the banks of the Avonmore. When the Earl of Essex, then Lord Deputy, heard to what straits O'Conor Sligo was thus reduced, he sent to Sir Conyers to meet him in Fercal, where, on consultation, the relief of O'Conor was decided upon, with all necessary aids. O'Donnel, on the other side, pressed the siege more closely, while himself led a detachment, not immediately engaged in that blockade, to the Curlew mountains, in the hope that the Governor, with his English and Irish forces, would march that way, to attack him. Here, however, he remained with his army for the space of two months, before the Governor had collected his full complement of troops, or otherwise completed his preparations; the wishes of Sir Conyers being then accomplished, as he was willing to think, he too rashly boasted that he would, on an early day, force his way through and destroy the army of O'Donnel. Red Hugh prepared for his reception, and, on the evening before the battle (as the biographer of the interesting manuscript entitled "The Life of Red Hugh O'Donnel" relates), he, in an energetic speech, excited his people to resist to the last, and resign their lives sooner than permit their inveterate enemies to triumph. In the battle of the ensuing day, although the English were much

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more numerous, and better prepared than the Irish, yet were they defeated with immense loss. Amongst the slain on their side were Sir Conyers Clifford, and several officers of distinction, while the loss on the other was comparatively trifling; all the treasures of the English fell into the hands of the victors.

Sir John Harrington (the translator of Ariosto), who had come over to this country as a captain in the service of Queen Elizabeth, gives the following account of this engagement: "The Governor of Connaught (Sir Conyers) would needs undertake a journey to Sligo, with twenty-one weak companies that were not 1400 strong, and a less proportion of horse than had been requisite for such a purpose, and yet, out of his too much haste and courage, after two long days' march, with small rest and less repast, he would needs draw his men to set upon the enemy, in a place of great disadvantage, called the 'Curlews,' where, though the enemy was at first repulsed, yet at last, their numbers increasing, and our munition failing, or some secret cause, that we know not, dismaying the footmen, they fell all in rout; the Governor and Sir Alexander Radcliffe were slain, ere they could come to their rescue. Some of our horse gave a desperate charge upon the hill among rocks and bogs, where never horse was seen to charge before; it is verily thought they had all been cut in pieces—at least lost all their colours, so that, if reputation were to be challenged, when so

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great loss accompanied it, we might take upon us to have won some honour; having, as Sir Henry Davers did pleasantly write to Sir Griffith Markham, not Roman citizens but rascal soldiers, who, so their commanders had been saved, had been worthy to have been half hanged for their rascal cowardliness; neither was this good service of ours unpaid, for, beside the loss of two or three good horse, and better men, Sir Griffin Markham was shot through the arm with a musket; and, though he bore the hurt admirable well for a day or two, and especially at the instant, yet ever since he hath kept his bed of it, and hath been in danger of his arm by the hurt, and of his life by an ague; but now he is, I hope, out of danger of both, and safe at Dublin(*a*)."

Sir John Harrington, in a subsequent letter to Sir Anthony Standen, from Athlone, writes more fully on this interesting subject: "I doubt not but many pens and tongues utter, after many fashions, the report of our late unfortunate journey, but yet I thought it not amiss to write you this brief narrative of it, which I may say 'Quæque ipse misserrima vidi, et quorum pars una fui.' On Sunday last the Governor marched with one and twenty companies or colours (for indeed some of them were but mere colours of companies, having sixty for a hundred and fifty), from Tulsk, eight miles beyond Roscommon, to the Abbey of Boyle, some fourteen miles; and hearing belike

(*a*) Harrington's Nugæ Antiquæ, vol. ii. p. 12.

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that the enemy was but weak in the Curlews, and that they expected not his coming (because Captain Cosby the day before came from Boyle to Roscommon), on this account the Governor (God bless him) resolved to possess the Pare that night, being two miles from the Abbey. This was against the minds of most of the captains, the soldiers being weary and fasting, insomuch that they speak for meat ere they went up, but the Governor promised them they should have beef enough at night, and so drew them on, but many, God wit, lost their stomachs before supper. The order was this: Captain Lyster led the forlorn hope; Sir Alexander Radcliffe and his regiment had the vanguard; my Lord of Dublin led the battel; Sir Arthur Savage the rear: the horse were appointed to stand in a little pasture at the foot of the hill, to the intent that, when the Pare had been cleared, they might have come up. After our men had gone up the hill and entered part of the Pare, the rebels began to play upon them from a barricado that they had made, but our men soon beat them from it, and so mounting high, Sir Alexander Radcliffe very bravely beat them out of a thin wood, into a bog on the left side of the Pare, and we, who stood at the foot of the hill, might see them, and all men thought the Pare had been ours, but, after the skirmish had lasted an hour and a half, very hot, and our shot had expended all our powder, the vanguard wheeled about in such a fashion, that what with that and some strange and causeless fear, that fell upon

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our men, the vanguard fell into the battel, and in conclusion all fell in rout, and no man could stay them; the Governor himself, labouring to turn them, lost his breath, his voice, his strength, and last of all, his life. How it can be answered at home by such as it concerned most, I know not, but so vile and base a part I think was never played among so many men, that have been thought of some desert. But now the horse, standing at the foot of the hill, and seeing through the woods and glades some disorder, though not suspecting so ill as it was, 'charged up the hill another way that lay on the left, if it may be called a way, that had stones in it six or seven feet broad, lying above ground, and plashes of bogs between them; but with this charge we made the enemy retire, whereby all the foot and colours came off, but we bought this small reputation (if so it will be taken) very dearly, for our own commander of the horse had his arm broken with a shot, and had another shot through his clothes, and some seven or eight horse more killed, and several proper men. Captain Jephson was next to Sir Griffith Markham, in the head of Lord Southhampton's troops, and charged very gallantly. I would not, for all the land I have, but I had been well horsed: I verily think the idle faith, which possesses the Irishry, concerning magic and witchcraft, seized our men and lost the victory; for when my cousin, Sir Henry Harrington, in a treacherous parley with Rorie Ogie, a notable rebel, was taken and conveyed to his habitation a prisoner,

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his friends, not complying with the terms offered for his ransom, sent a large band to his rescue, which the rebel, seeing to surround his house, rose in his shirt, and gave Sir Henry fourteen grievous wounds, then made his way through the whole band and escaped, notwithstanding his walls were only mud, such was their panic, as verily thinking he effected all by dint of witchery, and had by magic compelled them not to touch him. And this belief doth much daunt our soldiers, when they come to deal with the Irishry, as I can well perceive from their discourse. You will hear more from other captains of further advances(*a*)." The castles of Boyle, Roscommon, Athlone, Tulsk, and Ballinasloe, were then held at Her Majesty's charges, and for her service, but such terrors did the above event excite in London, that Rowland Whyte, in a letter to Sir Robert Sydney, says: "The news from Ireland is so desperate, that it grieves my soul to write of them. Conor Sligo is revolted, the Abbey of the Boyle delivered to the rebel; the Irish run to Tyrone in great numbers; the English so appalled with this intended journey to the north, that most part keep their beds; and the forces, the Lord General can take with him for this dangerous service, will not exceed 4,000 foot, and 500 horse. I thank God you went not thither"(*b*). Fynes Moryson relates that, after the successful

(*a*) Harrington's Nugæ Antiquæ, vol. ii. p. 20, &c.
(*b*) Sydney State Letters, vol. ii. p. 114.

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charge made by Captain Jephson, the Queen's men "had leisure to retire over a ford into a plain, where the carriages were, and thence to the Abbey of the Boyle, being very near the place. Afterwards the rebels began to charge our horse, but, their powder being almost spent, Captain Jephson safely retired, with the loss of some few horses. But the Lord of Dunkellin, Sir Arthur Savage, Captain John Jephson, and many of the best judgment, considering the Governor was lost, our troops utterly dismayed, and O'Donnell come down with all his forces into those places, thought fit our men should retire to their garrisons; so Captain Jephson all that night kept the ford, while our foot, in the silent night, retired; and in the morning, when they were in safety, he, with the horse under his command, went softly after them to the Castle of Athlone. It is strange, the rebels then present being but some 200 men, and most of our men being old soldiers, how this defeat could be given; but small accidents in military affairs are often causes of strange and great events, for I have heard this mischance fully attributed to an unorderly turning of the whole body of the van, which, though it were toward the enemy, being mistaken by some common soldiers for a flight, it caused a general rout."

"A Brief Relation of the Defeat on the Curlews," embodied in Dymmok's "Treatice of Ireland," before alluded to, states the forces commanded in this action by Sir Conyers Clifford, as 1,900 men under 25 ensigns, and about 200 English and Irish horse;



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that he entered the Curlews on the 15th of August, 1599, about 4 o'clock in the afternoon; that "the vanguard was conducted by Sir Alexander Radcliffe; that the Lord of Dunkellin, son to the Earl of Clanrickard, followed with the battel; and Sir Arthur Savage brought up the rear-guard, while the horse (where also the baggage was left) had directions to stand between the Abbey of Boyle and the entrance into the passage, under the command of Sir Griffin Markham, until the same should be freed by the foot.". . . "Things being thus ordered, the vanguard, followed by the battel and rear guard, advanced in short time by a narrow way betwixt two large bogs, to the side of a wood half a mile broad, through which lieth a highway, so broad as it giveth liberty for twelve men to march in front, the same rising equally and gently, until it hath passed the wood, where it is carried upon the side of a high hill, which it leaveth on the left hand, and the hill and ground adjoining being a main bog, upon the right hand lieth a thick wood, not more than musket shot from the same." . . . "Sir Alexander Radcliffe, although he was, in the beginning of the skirmish, shot in the face, yet continued to spend all his powder upon the enemy, and, no supply coming unto him, prepared to charge them with a small number of such choice pikes, as would either voluntarily follow him, or were by him called forth by name from the body of the vanguard; but, before he could come to join with them he had the use of a leg taken from him

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with the stroke of a bullet, by which ill fortune he was forced to retire, sustained upon the arms of two gentlemen, one of which, receiving the like hurt, died in the place, as did also himself soon after, being shot through the body with a bullet." . . . "On the example of his turning head, the vanguard fled in such rout, that it discomfited the battel with the sight and in a moment put all in confusion, which disorder the Governor, endeavouring (but in vain) to reform, whilst he had any strength left in him, was, after much fruitless travel, sustained breathless upon the arms of Sir John Mac Sweeny, and Captain Oliver Burke's lieutenant; who, perceiving the disordered flight of the whole army (despairing to save their lives by other means) persuaded him to retire himself with them, when he, reproving the baseness of his men, replied, Roman like, that he would not overlive that day's ignominy; but that affection, which moved Sir John Mac Sweeny to use entreaties, persuaded him now to practice force, by which they carried him from the pursuing rebels some few paces, where, with a consideration of the vile doings of his men, which he often repeated, he broke from them in a fury, and turning head, alone made head to the whole troops of pursuers, in the midst of whom, after he was struck through the body with a pike, he died fighting, consecrating, by an admirable resolution, the memory of his name to immortality, and leaving the example of his virtue to be entitled by all honourable posterity. There died, likewise, Godred

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Tyrwhit, brother to Mr. Robert Tyrwhit, of Kettleby, fighting by the side of Sir Alexander Radcliffe, of whom cannot be said less than, that he hath left behind him an eternal testimony of his nobleness of spirit, which he had derived from an honourable family. But these went not alone, for they were accompanied to the gates of death by divers worthy." "This defeat was given by O'Rourke and Mac Dermot, O'Donnel being there, but came not to fight, to whom the Governor's head was sent that night for a present; his body was conveyed to a monastery not far from thence, as appeareth by Mac Dermot's letter to the Constable of Boyle, which is censured by Sir John Harrington, to be barbarous for the Latin, but civil for the sense:—'Constabulario de Boyle salutem: scias, quod ego traduxi corpus Gubernatoris ad monasterium Sanctæ Trinitatis, propter ejus dilectionem et aliâ de causâ; si velitis mihi redire meos captivos ex predicto corpore, quod paratus sum ad conferendum vobis ipsum, alias sepultus erit honeste in predicto monasterio, et sic vale! Scriptum apud Gaywash, 15 August, 1599. Interim pone bonum linteamen ad predictum corpus, et, si velitis sepelire omnes alios nobiles, non impediam vos erga eos.

"'MAC DERMOD.'

"By this letter," continues the relation, "is too truly interpreted a troublesome dream of the Governor's, which he had, about a year before this defeat, when, being wakened by his wife out of an unquiet

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sleep, he recounted unto her, that he thought himself to have been taken prisoner by O'Donnel, and that certain religious men, of compassion, conveyed him into their monastery, where they concealed him; and so indeed, as he dreamed, or rather prophesied, the monastery hath his body, the world his fame, and his friends the want of his virtue." O'Sullivan, in his "Compendium," &c., mainly attributes the victory to the coming up of O'Ruarc, with a body of 400 foot, at the moment of panic, and he states the loss of the royalists as 400, being chiefly Englishmen or Anglo-Irish of Meath, and that of the "Catholics" as 140 wounded and missing. It may be added, from the Biography of O'Donnel, that when O'Conor Sligo was convinced, by the sight of the head of Sir Conyers Clifford, that the Governor was killed, and the English army defeated, he sent a messenger to O'Donnell, requesting peace on any terms, and many others, that were theretofore allies of the English cause, submitted on the victor's terms, while Red Hugh laid the country, as far as the gates of Galway, under contribution, and "the terror of his name extended from Galway to Loop-Head." The Earl of Essex immediately afterwards retired from the government of Ireland, leaving the following feeble array for the protection of Connaught: the Earl of Clanrickard, having 50 horse; the Provost-Marshal, 10; Sir Theobald Dillon, 15; and Captain George Blount, 12: while of foot, the Earl of Clanrickard commanded 100; Lord Dunkellin, 150; Sir Arthur

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Savage, 200; Sir Thomas Burke, 100; Sir Gerald Harvey, 150; Sir Hugh O'Conor, 100; Sir Theobald Dillon, 100; Captain Badby, 150; Captain Richard Plunket, 150; Captain Mostyn, 100; Captain Tybotne-Long, 100; Captain Walter Floyd, 150; Captain Thomas Roper, 150; Captain Oliver Burke, 100; Captain Thomas Burke, 100; and Captain David Bourke, 100(*a*). A contemporaneous calculation of "the rebels," engaged against the Queen in this war, states, in reference to this vicinity: "In Roscommon county, O'Conor Don, Mac Dermot, O'Brian, O'Hanly, O'Flanagan, Mac Sweeny, Mac Hugh Duff Daly, and O'Kelly, 500 foot and 30 horse.—In Counties Leitrim and Sligo, Mac Ranell, O'Dowde, O'Hara, O'Harte, Mac Donough, and O'Gara, 300 foot and 30 horse; O'Ruarc, with his followers, 600 foot, and 60 horse.—In Sligo the four sons of O'Madden, whose father was killed lately in action, 50 foot, &c. Not many years afterwards a road was cut through this then almost inaccessible district, by Sir George, the surviving brother of Sir Richard Bingham, from whom descended, in the fourth generation, Sir John Bingham of Castlebar, who married the granddaughter of William Sarsfield, elder brother of the celebrated Patrick Earl of Lucan, a connexion that led to the ennobling of Sir John Bingham's son and heir, Sir Charles Bingham, by the title of Lord Lucan.

(*a*) Moryson's Itinerary, p. 42.

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In May, 1601, the Lord Deputy (Mountjoy) and the Council, in their disposal of the Queen's forces for the ensuing summer's service, appointed, that 1,000 foot and 60 horse should be left at the Abbey of Boyle, "under the command of the late Lord of Dunkellin, now Earl of Clanrickard," their instructions being to infest O'Conor Sligo, and to keep O'Ruarc from joining O'Donnel, "which served to further our new plantation at Ballyshannon, where a garrison was newly planted, and Sir Henry Ffolliot was made governor thereof"(*a*). Immediately afterwards Sir Oliver Lambert, being Governor of Connaught, had some skirmishes with the Irish hereabout, as thus alluded to in a letter of 12th September, 1602, from the Lord Deputy to him, dated at Newry.— "Sir, yesterday, at my coming to this town, your messenger delivered me your letters, containing a relation of your proceedings, since your going to the Abbey of Boyle, where, and in your return thence, I perceive you have had some knocking on both sides, and, the rebels being so many, as you note, I have good cause to be glad you sped so well, and parted with so good reputation to our side, and so little loss withal, which, I doubt not, proceeded chiefly from your good command and managing of that business, for which I may not omit to yield you many thanks, neither will I be sparing to testify so much, where it may most redound to your due and

(*a*) Moryson's Ireland, pp. 103, 209.

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well-deserved commendation; yet must I withal note, that it somewhat grieves me to observe so great an alteration in those, that of late seemed desirous (or at least not unwilling) to receive Her Majesty's mercy, for that I have some reason to be doubtful that this sudden change proceedeth not altogether out of a certain expectation of Spanish succours, but out of some opinion they have conceived of a purpose you have, to dispossess the principal men of their lands and livings, and to get the same into Her Majesty's hands, by indictments and offices to be found thereof, and, if they once entertain such a conceit, they will assuredly put up all to any hazard, and to their uttermost means shun to be reclaimed"(*a*).

In 1604, Martin Lisle had a grant of the site of the late monastery of Canons of Inchvickreeny, on the bank of Lough Ke, in the country of Moylurg, with the following parcels of their possessions, viz., a certain island there, containing one acre (having thereon a ruinous church, and the walls of two decayed houses); and three quarters of land, called the "Three Quarters of Drum," upon the banks of said lough; one quarter of wood or mountain, parcel of the great hill called the "Curlew," with the tithes of said four quarters; the vicarages of Ballymagrie, Dromyn, Aghocarre, &c. On the 12th of May, in the same year, an inquisition was taken concerning

(*a*) Moryson's Ireland, p. 240.

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the monastery of Boyle, in Mac Dermot's country, when the jurors found that it contained one acre of land, on which are certain stone walls, a church, a tower, a belfry, a cloister, hall, dormitory, cemetery, 6 gardens, and other waste houses and edifices; 3 waste houses, with the appurtenances, in the town of Boyle; 200A. arable, and 160A. mountain pasture, in said town; 60A. pasture in Conor-o-booly, in O'Conor Roe's country; 70A. arable, and 120A. mountain in Grange-Mulconry, in the Maghery; 40A. arable, and 30A. mountain pasture, in the town of Tulsk, County Roscommon; 60A. arable, and 120 pasture, brushwood, and bog in Grange-Munteriolis, in Mac Ranell's country, County Leitrim; 6 cottages in Grangenemanagh and Templenemanagh, in Mac Donough's country of Corran; 120A. arable, 140A. pasture, wood, and bog, with certain parcels of land called Carenolia, in said townlands and fields of Grangenemanagh and Templenemanagh, in the County Sligo; 6 cottages in the townlands of great and little Grange, in Tyreragh, in the country commonly called O'Dowd's country; 60A. arable, 160A. pasture in Great and Little Grange; a castle and 8 cottages, with the appurtenances, in the town of Grange of Coulkirrie; 80A. arable and 180A. pasture and bog in the town of Coulkirrie; a new castle built by Hugh O'Harte, and 7 cottages in the town of Grange, in O'Conor Sligo's country; 30A. arable and 40A. pasture and bog in the town of Grange; and a chief rent issuing out of 180A. arable in Mac Der-

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mot's country; all which are thereby found to be parcels of the possessions of the late Abbey of Boyle, as are likewise the rectory and tithes of the parish church of Boyle, extending into the townlands and fields of Boyle; the rectory and tithes of the parish church of Kilnemanagh, in Mac Dermot's country, extending into the townlands and fields of Kilnemanagh, Ballynagal, Finisclin, and other wastes; the chapelries and tithes of the Grange of Conor-o-booly, Grange-O'Mulconry, Tulsk, Grange-Munteriolis, Templenemanagh, Grangenemanagh, near Ballymote; Grangemore, Grangebeg, Coulkirrie, and other waste towns, villages, and hamlets, and the fields of the same; the rectory of the parish of Tumna, in Mac Dermot's country; the rectory of the parish church of Killummod, in the same country, all which premises, as this inquisition finds, have been demised by Queen Elizabeth in 1583, to William Usher, for a term of 21 years, and, on the expiration thereof, were demised by King James for 21 other years, to John St. Barbe, subject to which subsisting interest they were, on the 4th of December next after the date of the above inquisition, demised, by a reversionary lease, to John King and John Bingley, and after their surrender, in 1606, were granted exclusively to said John King, by patent of the 20th of November, 1617. A subsequent inquisition of 1st April, 1606, found that the Abbot of Boyle was seised of 2 quarters of Tullagh; 1 of Muckmoyne; the quarters of Ardkeran, Athgrange, Knockdoo-

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more, Ballytrasna, Carrowgeera, Carrownegrange, Tullaghboy, Carrowgarruff, and Clonnonna; 2 quarters of Leyme; ½ quarter of Innevanny; ¼ quarter of Loughnedoe, all adjacent to the demesne lands of the Abbey; also 12 other quarters within the territory of Moylurg, viz.: Derrymaguirk, Ardmore, Ardveghan, Lecarrow, Ardsillagh, Knockabroe, Knockdoe-Mannagh, Knocknecloygh, Grange-Beagh, Tinnecarra; the ½ quarter of Loughcarro-ne-sure; ½ quarter of Carrowvelane; ½ quarter Lisogevoge, also the following granges in said county: Mulconry's grange, 4 quarters; Rull, in O'Conor Roe's country, 1 quarter; Lishenishell, near Clonpucken, 5 quarters; the grange of Tulsk, 2 quarters; grange in O'Fallon's country, 2 quarters; 24 eel-weirs on the River Boyle, viz., at Carrowmore, Carrane-Braher, Carra-iconogher, Carradroighed, Carra-illan, Shragh-na-moyle, Carraiall, two at Carra-broghues, Carrane-tuchan, Carrane-curratan, Curracap-cashel, Doughcarra, two at Isselyn, Carrane-Leyme, the two Unchins, Carrane Pruyt, Carra-sagard, Carra-gurteen, Carranecreeve, Carraneddon, and Carrane-soppe; with all the tithes, great and small, of the aforesaid lands and weirs; a moiety of the tithes, viz.: the rector's part in the parish of Killummod, extending into four townlands; the moiety of Tuemonia, extending into 5½ townlands; the townland and a half of Ballyworchill: and that the said Abbot was also seised of Loughurt *alias* Longfort, 2½ townlands; and the vicarage of Isselyn, viz., the fourth part of the tithes; all which premises were, by patent of June, 1609,

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granted for the term of 116 years, to John King and John Bingley, Esquires.

Another inquisition of 22nd May, 9th James I. finds the Trine de Cloncagh, one quarter, and the third of another quarter in the parish Towewr, and barony of Coran, with a ruined chapel, or small church, did belong to this Abbey, as did also Alty-ferenan, one quarter; Grangemore, 3 quarters; Grangebeg, 4 quarters; 3 quarters of Bragh-Slieve, and Templemanagh, 4 quarters; Grange, 4 quarters; and Cowlesiemanagh, 1 quarter. And lastly, an inquisition, of 27th November following, records that 4 quarters of Cowrine-Sleight, near Knocknaree, appertained to this Abbey. The monastery of Canons of the Holy Trinity of Lough Ke was, at this time, seised of Trienrosbirne, and a quarter of land called Tullaghmoyle-beg, in the County of Sligo, and of the rectory and rectorial tithes of Clanarvey, in the County Leitrim.

These inquisitions were succeeded by the following grants of monastic and other possessions, within this district. In December, 1606, Edward Crofton, son of John Crofton (the previous lessee), had a grant from King James, of (*inter alia*) the site of the late monastery or priory of the Holy Trinity of Canons, in Mac Dermot's country, otherwise Moylurg, within the island of the Holy Trinity of Lough Ke, containing half an acre, and a small house, 3 gardens, and the walls of a church; the said island, with its appurtenances; 3 cottages, 60A. arable, and

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40A. pasture, underwood and bog, in Kilvorine; a chiefry of 3*s*. 4*d*. out of the grange of Tirerowne; parcel of the estate of the said priory of Lough Ke; the rectories and tithes of Kilvorine, Coren and Tirehoill, in Mac Donough's country; the vicarages and tithes of Isertsnowe (Estersnow), and Kilvickowen, in Mac Dermot's country, to hold same for 60 years, at a rent of £2 10*s*., Irish, five pecks of corn being reserved to the Crown "out of Lough Ke," to be delivered in Athlone, on the feast of the Purification, for which this patentee was to deduct of the rent 2*s*. 6*d*. for each peck; and to maintain an able horseman for the defence of Ireland; all which premises, with others, the said Edward conveyed to family uses in 1619. In the following year, the beforementioned John King, Esq, then styled of the City of Dublin (ancestor of Viscount Lorton), had a grant of (*inter alia*) the entire island of Bally-Mac-Manus, with four quarters of free land thereto adjoining(*a*), parcel of the estate of Rory Roe Mac Manus, of the same attainted; and two quarters of Finisklin, in the barony of Moylurg, parcel of the estate of Dowaltie Mac Teigue Mac Rory of the same, slain in rebellion. In June, 1608, Conor Mac Dermott Roe had a grant of four carucates, or quarters, in Camagh; two carucates in Levallinegowline; two in

(*a*) This seems to refer to the island in Lough Meelagh, and the endowment of termon lands to Kilronan (the Mac Manus's country), mentioned *ante*, p. 134.

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Levallinesragha; one in Carrickedrahine; four quarters in Kilvictriena; half a carucate and half a cartron in Faus; one quarter in Ardglass; half a quarter in Corroghgower; a quarter in Caheromore-idrean; a chiefry of £1 6*s.* 8*d.*, out of Cloneboyah; 6*s.* 8*d.* out of Agholatiffe; 6*s.* 8*d.* out of Carrowecrosna; 6*s.* 8*d.* out of Aghacarrie; £5 6*s.* 8*d.* out of Kilvictriena; and 6*s.* 8*d.* out of Carrow-aghnasurn, all in English money, with license to hold a fair on St. John the Baptist's Day and the day after, and a Thursday market at Kilmactraney, without rent, to hold for ever, as of the Castle of Dublin, in common socage(*a*). In July, 1611, Rickard, Earl of Clanrickard, passed patent for the late cell of nuns of Ardcarne, with a quarter and a half of land, and divers gardens, in Ardcarne and Isertsnow, thereto belonging; the rectory and tithes of Ardcarne (excepting the three towns of Long-fort), extended to three couples yearly, as parcel of the estate of the monastery of Killcreunata. These parcels had been previously granted by Queen Elizabeth, in 1593, to Terence O'Byrne, in fee.

In January, 1613, Richard Mapother(*b*) had a

(*a*) Patent Roll, 5 James I.

(*b*) The descendants of this individual have been long located in the County Roscommon, and appear to be now the only representatives of a line, that seems to have preceded even the Conqueror in England. The original name, "Mapledere," was a Saxon appellation, indicative of a district forested with maple-trees, and as such was applied to that which, on the Domesday

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Royal grant of one quarter in Carrowardmore; one third of the town and lands of Trianamarly; four

Survey is called Mapoudre, in Dorsetshire, since made parochial, and from which the family of Mapother derives its origin. On that great inquisition it was found to be then held, partly by the Earl of Moreton (a maternal brother of the Conqueror), partly by his son, William de Eu, but the lands in lordship, "and the meadow and the wood," continued to be vested in Bollo the Saxon from the time of Edward the Confessor, he being, as expressed on the roll, a "Thane of the King," as those thanes were pre-eminently styled, who held high dignities under the Crown. They were accounted of a rank with the Norman barons, and their titles, being also hereditary, descended with the land, even after the Conquest. A successor of this Thane called, after the Norman fashion, "John de Maypodre," granted a vergate of land, with the above "meadow," to the Knights Hospitallers, which, it is recorded, the Prior of that order alienated from his fraternity in 1189. In 1270, Siward, styled "de Mapledurham," had a Royal license of absence and protection (*Rymer's Fœdera*), in the character of a crusader; about which time, as appears from that valuable repository, the "Testa de Neville," on inquisition then taken, "Elyas de Malpedrye" was proved to have inherited a knight's fee within the Hundred of Godiston, in Dorsetshire, "from the time of the Conquest;" and in 1346, "James, son of Peter de Mapedre," was patron of the parish church of Mapowder, the locality before alluded to as in Dorsetshire. This family afterwards branched into Somersetshire, as appears from Collinson's History thereof; while Gilbert's, of Cornwall, relates that about the close of the fifteenth century, the manor of Peldew, in that county, having been forfeited by John Vere, Earl of Oxford, passed to the family of Mapowder. In the subsequent century, Sir Thomas Mapother, Knight, was settled in Dorsetshire, and became the founder of the Irish line, as shewn hereafter. A branch of the family was then also established at Holsworthy and Pyeworthy, in Devonshire, whose descent, for five preceding ge-

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quarters in Kilronan; four quarters in Kilcollagh; one in Carrowcraine; one in Carrowcarrane; one in

nerations, is given in a Visitation of that county, held in 1620, two years after which the will of Wilmota Mapowder, of Holsworthy, was proved in the Consistorial Court of Exeter. In the time of Charles the Second, as noted by Lyson, Trenance, in the parish of Withiel, and County of Cornwall, was purchased by the Mapother family. In 1722, Roger Mapowder, of the Devonshire line, was buried at Pyeworthy, where a monument is erected in the church to his memory, and the name can be traced within that county down to a very recent period; but, on the most diligent inquiry, all those English lines appear to have sunk into obscurity, whereby this ancient family is now only projected in the Irish descendants of the above Sir Thomas Mapother, *alias* Maypowder. Richard, one of his younger sons, was baptized at the parochial church of Bingham-Mickleham, so corruptly called from being the manor of the Binghams of Melcomb, from the time of Edward the Second. It is situated within the parish of West Stafford, in Dorsetshire, and from it went forth, in the time of Queen Elizabeth, Sir Richard Bingham, and his brother, Sir George, before-mentioned in this History. With the former, a short time previous to the projected Armada invasion, the said Richard Mapother passed into Ireland, and, when his countryman and patron was appointed President over the six newly-created counties of Connaught, in 1584, Mapother, under his auspices, was promoted to a captaincy of horse, and had a grant from Queen Elizabeth of some of the lands in the southern parts of the County Roscommon, still in the possession of his descendants. He obtained also, in the first year of the reign of King James, a lease from the Crown of the site and precincts of the Monastery of Cong, with 300A. in Cong, and a water-mill, and two weirs; 247A. in Crevagh; 248A. in Cross; 260A. in Kilmoghome; the rectories and tithes of Cong, Kilmolare, Templeoran, Kilmore, and other spiritual and temporal possessions of Cong Abbey, in the Counties of Mayo and Sligo; the site and precincts of the

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Port; one quarter, with a small island, in Artagh; one in Clontowad; one in Clogarney, and half a

Priory of Ballintobber; 220A. in Ballintobber; 260A. in Lyarlane; the rectories, churches, and tithes of Ballintobber and Dromenenagh, parcel of the possessions of said priory, in the County Mayo; the site and precincts of the Priory of Annaghcoyne, *alias* Annaghdoyne, with 6A. in Annaghdoyne; 76A. in Lisdugh; 31A. in Shankill and Muckres; 40A. in Owre; 20A. in Knocken; a ruinous chapel and 12A. in the Isle of Aran; and certain chief-rents, parcel of the possessions of said priory; the rectory, church, or chapel of Ballinacourt, in Clanrickard, with certain tithes thereto belonging. He had also a grant of a quarter of land appertaining to the chapelry of Caldriwolagh, within the Barony of Boyle. He married Margaret, daughter of Captain Thomas Woodhouse, of a family then established in Staffordshire, and theretofore recognized, in Norfolk, even from the Conquest. Richard by this marriage acquired, as recorded in an ancient pedigree, considerable estates, which, being incorporated with his own, were reputed the manor of Killenvoy, in the said county. In 1613 he obtained the grant which induced this notice, and dying, some short time previous to 1627, as appears by several inquisitions of record in the Rolls' Office, was buried in the churchyard of Kilteevan, which has since been the family burial-place. He left issue, by his lady, Thomas, his eldest son, and Woodhouse Mapother, his second, who married Alison, daughter of —— Longe, of Dublin. Richard had also four daughters: 1. Sarah, who married John Crofton, of Lisadurn; 2. Anne, married to Matthew de Renzy, Knight; 3. Eleanor, to William Marson, of Clonrath, County Roscommon; and 4. Mary, who became the wife, first, of William Ormsby, of Clonasilly, and, secondly, of —— Crofton, of Clonsillagh, in said county. Thomas Mapother, the eldest son of Richard, married Catherine Tezier, a French lady, by whom he had Richard, his eldest son; James, who married the aunt of Lord Lanesborough; and John, afterwards a captain of horse, as set forth in an ancient book of genea-

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quarter in Corragh, all described as within the Barony of Boyle; with the town, lands, and fort of

logies deposited in the Manuscript Room of Trinity College. Richard Mapother, the eldest son of Thomas, during the civil war of 1641, raised a troop for the service of the Royal cause, and maintained it for a considerable time at his own expense, on which account his property was sequestered by the usurping powers. He married Elizabeth, daughter of John Cheevers, of Killyan-more, by Helen, daughter of Sir Richard Butler, of Knocktopher. This Elizabeth, who was first cousin of Patrick Sarsfield, Earl of Lucan, died in September, 1690, as did Richard, in 1711, at a very advanced age, leaving issue by her, Patrick of Kilteevan and other children. He had been a captain of horse in the Irish wars, and married to his first wife, Mary, a near relative of Viscount Dillon, being the youngest daughter of the eminent Prime Sergeant Garret Dillon, who closed his life in France, an exile with the dethroned object of his unalterable allegiance. Mary dying without issue male but leaving two daughters, Captain Patrick intermarried with Elizabeth, daughter of that Colonel Edmund Nugent, of Carlanstown, who had three grants under the Act of Settlement, and was representative of Mullingar, in King James's Parliament. This Elizabeth left no issue, when Patrick took a third wife, Susanna, daughter of Christopher Irwin, of Oran, County Roscommon, and first cousin of the distinguished Prime Sergeant Malone. She left a son and two daughters, as recorded (with much of the preceding matter) on the family monument erected in 1715, the year of her death. This son, however, died soon after his birth, when Captain Mapother married a fourth wife, viz., Anne, daughter of —— Crofton, of Longford House, County Sligo, and niece to Henry Crofton, who died a general in the service of the King of Spain. By her Patrick had issue, Edward, Henry, and Patrick. Edward Mapother, of Kilteevan, the eldest son, married, first Frances, sister of John Kelly, of Clonlyon, County Galway, and afterwards of Castle Kelly, in said county; secondly, in 1768, Frances, daughter of Robert Ormsby,

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Killenboy; the quarters of Kill, Kiltivan (*alias* Kilteevan), Cornamentan, Ardnedrishee, and Letty, in Killenboy; with seven other quarters of land in O'Hanley's country, and Ballintobber Barony; four quarters in Roscommon Barony; the castles of Cornegie and Cloughankelly, with upwards of twelve other quarters in the Barony of Athlone, and all within the County Roscommon, to hold the same for ever, by the service of one knight's fee.

"A Description of the Province of Connaught," drawn up about this time, and preserved in the

of Rocksavage, County Roscommon; and thirdly, Miss Crofton, of Longford House, County Sligo, his own first cousin (aunt to the present Sir James Crofton, Baronet), but by neither of those marriages had he any issue; whereupon the inheritance devolved upon his next brother, Henry, who, by his lady, Margaret, daughter of Charles Croghan, of Tonragee, County Roscommon, had issue, Edward, and other children. Edward, the eldest son, intermarried, in 1784, with Penelope, daughter of John Taylor, of Swords, by his second wife, Catherine Everard, of Randalstown. [This Mr. Taylor was himself lineally descended from Edward Taylor, of Beverley, in Yorkshire, Chief Falconer to Henry the Third, whose second son, Nicholas Taylor, settled in Ireland and became founder of the line still represented at Swords(*a*).] The eldest son of Edward and Penelope is John Mapother, Esq., now of Kilteevan: he, in 1824, intermarried with Katherine, sister of the present O'Conor Don, whose lineal descent from the last acknowledged kings of Ireland, is alluded to in a subsequent section of this work. Of this marriage there is issue, sons and daughters, the eldest son, Edward, having been born in 1828.

(*a*) For a full memoir of this very ancient family, see "D'Alton's History of the County Dublin, p. 288, &c.

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Lansdown Collection of the British Museum, mentions of this county: "The County of Roscommon hath none of the ancient English races, only a little portion on the east of the River Suck, belonging to Mac Davye, one of the Burkes; of new English, Malby, who hath the Manor of Roscommon; Sir John King, the Abbey of Boyle; Brabazon, who hath Ballinasloe; the heirs of Sir Thomas L'Estrange, who have the Lordship of Athleague; and some others seated there, and since the wars: of English transported out of the Pale, the Baron of Delvin, and some of the Nugents; Sir Theobald Dillon, and others: of the Irishry, O'Conor Don, and O'Conor Roe, and the Mac Dermots; the O'Kellys, by east the Suck; the O'Hanleys, the O'Flanagans, the Fallons, the Naghtons, and divers others. . . . The Mac Dermots retained all the residue of the County of Roscommon, north from the O'Conors unto the borders of Sligo and Leitrim." "Mac Dermot is in some measure absolute here," are the words of Camden at the same period.

On the 25th of March, 1614, King James granted the governing charter to the Borough of Boyle: it expressly purports to be granted "as well upon the humble petition of the inhabitants of the town of Boyle, in our County of Roscommon, as for cultivating and planting those western parts in our said kingdom, which have been depopulated and made waste." And it thereby constituted Boyle "one entire free borough of itself, by the name of the Bo-

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rough of Boyle," directing that there be therein "one body corporate and politic, consisting of one burgomaster, twelve burgesses, and the commonalty, and that all, inhabiting within said town, shall be one body in fact, deed, and name;" to have perpetual succession, with the usual rights to plead and be impleaded, and full power and authority to send two members as their representatives in Parliament. This charter named James May to be the first Borough-Master, and John Wolfe, Roger Badger, Anthony Barber, James Witter, Richard Darby, John Luske, William Chancellor, Hugh Dexeter, Barny de Lye, Thomas Wright, Thomas Partington, and Eugene *alias* Owen, O'Corcoran, the first twelve Burgesses. It prescribes that every Borough-Master shall take the oath of supremacy and oath of office; provides for the succession of the Master and burgesses; for the holding of a borough-court; the making of by-laws for the better government of the borough; and prescribes the mode of appointing treasurers and other officers. The charter also gave the corporation the power of creating a guild of merchants, but this clause has never been acted upon. It is somewhat remarkable, that, of all the persons named in this charter, not one has left a representative of his name within the town.

In the August of the following year (1615), a Royal Visitation was held within the diocese of Elphin, which certified the value of the several benefices, and the names of the incumbents. Those

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within the scope of this work were thus stated:—*Archdeaconry.*—John Foster, M.A., Master and Preacher. *Deanery of Moylurg.* Vicarage of Ardcarne, value £3., sequestered—John Evett serves. Vicarage of Tumna, value 20*s.*, Thomas Parkington sequestrator. Vicarage of Killummod, value 20*s.*, John Houson, A.B., sequestrator. Vicarage of Isselyn, value 20*s.*, said John Evett. Vicarage of Killuken, said John Foster (being of the corps of the Archdeaconry).

Rectories and Vicarages withheld from the Church by Laymen.—Rectory of Ardcarne, value £7, Earl of Clanrickard; Vicarage of Isertsnow, value 30*s.*, Edward Crofton, Esq. *Rectories appertaining to the Monastery of the Holy Trinity.*—Rectory of Isertsnow; Rectory of Kilmacowen; Rectory of Drumduan; Rectory of Kilmactrina.

Rectories appertaining to the Monastery of Inchmacreen and Boyle.—Killummod—Tumna—Kilmacallan—Oghanna—Taunagh—Drumcollum—Calry. Farmer, John King.

In July, 1617, the Earl of Kildare had a grant in fee of (*inter alia*) Trienfaus, being one-third of the four quarters of Faus, as parcel of the estate of Conor Roe Mac Teigue Mac Owen Mac Dermott Roe, attainted; and of other parcels, the estates of Rorie Mac Fergananim Mac Dermott Roe, attainted; and of Rory Mac Manus, of Ballymacmanus, attainted, respectively; and in the following year, the beforementioned Edward Crofton, described as then of

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Ballymurry, had a grant of Knockroe, one quarter; Skeaghnehinen, ½ quarter; Lurgan, near Canbo, ½ quarter; Cashel, ½ quarter; Lecarrownehinch, ½ quarter, being one-fourth of Corbally; two quarters, three parts in five, of the half-quarter of Laveroe; Knocknepiest, half a quarter; parcel of Lisloghlin and Rowe quarter; Larewagh, or Laregrewagh half-quarter; Cuillawrea, one quarter; the parcels of Corretuan and Corretobber, one quarter: all stated as lying in the Barony of Boyle, and subject to a chiefry to Bryan Mac Dermot of the Rock. This patent also passed to Mr. Crofton the Castle of Ballymurry, with all its lands, in the Barony of Athlone, and created the manors of Ballymurry and Ballysadare, in the counties of Roscommon and Sligo respectively, with rights of holding fairs and markets in each. At the same time with the last grant, William O'Mulloy, of Croghan, obtained from the Crown the extensive district thereby constituted the manor of Croghan, and comprising the numerous townlands before specified in the memoir of that family; as did Bryan Mac Dermot of Carrig ('the Rock'), in the following August, those mentioned in the Mac Dermot Memoir; while Owen, the son of Conor Mac Dermot of Aghacarra, had a grant of 2 quarters of Aghacarra; Osney, 1 quarter; Imlagh, 1 quarter; the trine of Knocknefushogue, one quarter and a third; the trine of Scormoreruneack, containing two cartrons and a half, and one-sixth of a cartron; Carrowenonneene, Lackan, Carrowmorgranagh, Ard-

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keenagh, and Knockroe, one quarter each; three-fourths of the two quarters of Ballymullany; saving to Bryan Mac Dermot of the Rock, and his heirs, a chiefry of £1 6*s.* 8*d.*

In 1619, Sir John King, Privy Councillor, had the grant of the manor of Boyle, before alluded to, including the possessions of the dissolved Monastery of Boyle, and amongst them a moiety of the tithes, great and small, belonging to the rectories of Killummod, Tumna, and half the parish of Kilnemanagh, and the vicarage of Isselyn, with the tithes appertaining thereto; and likewise the site of the late Monastery or House of Inchvickreeny, "on the bank of Lough Ke, in the territory of Moylurg;" the vicarage of Kilmagry, *alias* Ballymagry; the vicarages of Drum and Dryne; all that the rectories of Aghanagh, Kilmacallan, and Cowla, in the Barony of Tyrerill; parcel of the possessions of said House of Inchvickreeny, all which were thereby constituted the manor of Boyle, with courts leet and baron, a seneschal, &c.

About this time, amongst the religious fraternity residing at Kilronan, was the learned antiquary, Peregrine O'Duigenan, one of the four principal compilers of that great Irish Historical Chronicle, called from them pre-eminently, the "Annals of the Four Masters."

In a return of Doctor Edward King, as to the state of the diocese of Elphin in 1622, he recommends, that "the parish of Kilnamanagh may be fitly united to the Boyle, which is already fairedly built;

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and that the parishes of Tumna and Estersnow are fit to be united to Ardcarne." And in 1633 an Archiepiscopal Visitation was held, which made the following returns regarding this district:

Mr. Erasmus Matthew, Archdeacon of Elphin; Bishop collates; value £13 per annum.

These are the members of the Archdeaconry of Elphin: Vicarage of Ardcarne, value £6 per annum; Rectory of Killuken appertains to the Archdeaconry; vicarage of the same. Vicarage of Taghbolyn; Bishop collates; value £6 per annum; said Erasmus vicar. Vicarage of Kilnemanagh; Bishop collates; value £3 per annum; said Erasmus collates. Cure of Isselyn, value 25*s.* per annum; said Matthew, curate.

Impropriations.—Rectories of Ardcarne and Raharrow; value 45*s.*; Earl of Clanrickard. Vicarages of Ballyborrel and Drum; value 40*s.*; Sir John King, Knight. These two are one little vicarage, being the tithes of a quarter of land. Vicarages of Isertsnow; value £3; Kilmactrane, 40*s.*; and Kilmacowan, 30*s.*; George Crofton, Esq.

The above Erasmus Matthew was instituted to the perpetual vicarages of the parish churches of Taghboyne, Ardcarne, and Kilnemanagh, by Edward, Bishop of Elphin, in September, 1618; inducted in October following. And Thomas Reeves, Doctor of Laws, granted to said Erasmus a faculty, to hold, with the united vicarages of Ardcarne and Taghboyne, the

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Archdeaconry of the Cathedral Church of the Blessed Virgin, of Elphin.

John Wright was instituted by the said Bishop to the Vicarage of Tumna, 26th June, 1633, and inducted into the same in the following September.

Joseph Kempe was admitted to serve cure of souls in the parish churches of Isertsnow and Kilbryan, by the said Bishop, 30th April, 1633.

On the 9th of July, 1635, Lord Strafford opened, at the Abbey of Boyle, that memorable commission, by which he sought to establish the title of the Crown to all the lands of Connaught: "When I came hither," he writes to Secretary Coke, by letter, dated at Abbey Boyle, 14th July, 1635, "on the ninth of this month, I found the gentlemen returned of the jury, and the country in general, attending the coming of His Majesty's commission, and, understanding that divers affrights had underhand been put in men's minds, concerning His Majesty's intentions in this work, and that indeed no people in the world are more apt to be misled by rumour, I sent for half a dozen of the principal gentlemen amongst them, that they would acquaint the rest of the country, that the end of our coming was, the next day to execute His Majesty's commission, for finding a clear and undoubted title in the Crown to the Province of Connaught, proposing to begin first with the County of Roscommon, wherein, nevertheless, to manifest His Majesty's justice and honour, I thought

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fit to let them know, it was His Majesty's gracious pleasure any man's counsel should be fully and willingly heard, in the defence of their respective rights, being a favour never before afforded to any, upon taking any of these inquisitions; and also, if there were anything else they desired, I was ready to hear them, and would return a fair and equal answer thereunto, as by His Majesty I had been strictly enjoined, and to afford all his good people all respect and freedom, in the setting forth and defence of their several rights and claims. With this I left them marvellous much satisfied, for a few words please them more than you can imagine. The next morning they exhibited a petition, signed by a great many of them, whereby they desired the finding might be deferred till a longer time, pretending they were unprovided; to this I replied, if they were so, it was their fault, I having caused a *scire facias* to issue forth of the Chancery, twenty days before. So presently we read the commission, called and swore the jury, and so on with our work. Mr. Serjeant Cattelin opened the evidence very materially, briefly, and in order, and, after all the opposition and objections of the counsel on the other side, which were patiently and quietly heard at large, did so wipe them all away, and fortify the title of the Crown, as he imposed necessity upon them to find it. I desired them first to descend into their own consciences, take them to council, and there they should find the evidence for the Crown clear

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and conclusive; next, to beware how they appeared resolved or obstinate against so manifest a truth, or how they let slip forth out of their hands, the means to weave themselves into the royal thoughts and care of His Majesty, through a cheerful and ready acknowledgment of his right, and a due and full submission thereunto; so then, if they would be inclined to truth, and do the best for themselves, they were undoubtedly to find the title for the King; and there I left them, to chant together (as they call it) over their evidence. The next day they found the King's title without scruple or hesitation, only by their petition, which you have here enclosed, they desired many things, and such as were reasonable and just were granted"(*a*).

On 29th October, 1641, Lord Clanrickard, having received notice from Sir Charles Coote, then in the County of Roscommon, of great outrages, alleged to have been committed by the Irish, in the County of Leitrim, and, in particular, of their having destroyed the iron works of Sir Charles's father, and the English plantations in that county, directed, that all, who held from the King there, at military service, should be commanded to be in readiness for duty on twenty-four hours' notice(*b*). He subsequently states, in one of his letters, that he had received notice from Sir Ulick Burke; Mr. Hubert Burke, of Dunamon; and

(*a*) Strafford's State Letters, vol. i. pp. 442–3.
(*b*) Clanrickard's Memoirs, p. 2.

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Mr. Teigue Kelly, of Gallagh; of the spreading of the commotion in the County of Leitrim, and some pillaging of the English in O'Conor's country. Sir Robert King was thereupon appointed Constable of the Castle of Abbey-Boyle, with a detachment of Protestant warders to protect that place. In 1642, writes Borlase, "Roscommon, Tulsk, Elphin, Knockvicar, Abbey-Boyle, and Ballinafad, had persons most active in their defence, even from the first surprisal of the rebels, acting to amazement, when nothing but their own courage secured their forts, though the last, for want of water, was compelled, after a long siege, to yield to the rebels, after that the Governor's two brothers, the Kings from Boyle, with Sir Charles Coote, had resolved to have relieved him." The castles of Roscommon were, in truth, with those of Loughrea and Portumna, all that then held out in the Province of Connaught(*a*). In 1643, when Castle Coote was besieged by the Irish, "forces from Boyle, Roscommon, &c., having faithfully relieved the castle, all jointly, gallantly set on the rebels, which their general perceiving, grew so much enraged against his soldiers, as to profess he had rather be a captain of the 200 in the garrison than general of the 3000 he had. Thus," adds Borlase, "His Majesty's forces, where they were unanimous, vigorously proceeded."

In 1644, Donat O'Daly, the celebrated Irish poet,

(*a*) Carte's Ormond, vol. i. p. 431.

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was buried in the Abbey of Boyle, and, adds Alemande, "most of the prime men of Ireland desired to be buried in this house, by reason of the great reputation of its sanctity." Many also resorted to it in pilgrimage from all parts, as to a place of singular devotion.

In 1645, Carrick-drumrusk was garrisoned by Sir George St. George, and Boyle by Captain Francis King, and both places, having professed obedience to His Majesty's government and declared for the cessation, were left untouched(*a*). In 1651, when "Ireton having made all provision for an early campaign, and received some reinforcements from England, resolved to commence by besieging Limerick, and, as it was necessary to pierce into Connaught, in order to invest this city on all sides, Sir Charles Coote was directed to advance towards Sligo. The Irish prepared to relieve this place, when Coote, suddenly drawing off his men, passed, with some difficulty, over the Curlew mountains, and invested Athlone. Clanrickard, embarrassed as he was by faction and opposition, made some efforts to oppose him, but, before his forces could be collected, Athlone was taken, and Coote, pursuing his advantage, marched against Galway"(*b*). In 1660, this Sir Charles Coote was appointed President of Connaught, with all accustomed profits and emoluments, and power to choose and change a Vice-President.

(*a*) Desid. Cur. Hib. vol. ii. p. 291.
(*b*) Leland's Ireland, vol. iii. p. 400.

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By a clause of the Act of Settlement, of 1662, some few were, as "meriting, in an especial manner, grace and favour," and, "having served under the royal ensigns, beyond the seas," directed by the King to be restored to their estates. Amongst these were, within this vicinity, Colonel William Taaffe; Major Owen O'Conor, of Balinagar; Captain Charles O'Mulloy; Lieutenant Edmund O'Mulloy; Ensign Lewis Mac Dowell; Colonel Richard Grace; Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Molloy, and Captain Stephen Molloy. By another clause of that Act, John Lord Kingston was confirmed in the possession of all his estates and rights, described, as theretofore set out, in Ireland, to him, or to his late father, Sir Robert King, or which were purchased by them, or either of them; and in 1666, the said Lord Kingston was appointed sole Governor of Connaught, being the last who filled that office.

At this time, and in pursuance of the said Act, with that of Explanation, the following grants were made of property situated within the district of the present inquiry: To Thomas Lloyd, Carrowbeg and Ardsallagh, 122A.; Ardmore, one quarter; Cushina, half a quarter; Faus and Ardcock, 2 trines, 200A.; Cloinshaghan, one trine, 88A.; Glory, one trine, 54A.; Trinagry, one trine, 60A.; Knocknafushoge, one trine, 130A.; Carricknacurragh, one trine, 129A.; Trinamarly, one trine, 78A.; in Camlin, 1 quarter, 79A. and 6P.; Carrowkeel, one quarter, 54A.; Dromyn, *alias* Killepoge, and Bunriagh, 191A.; Lisdaly, one

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quarter, 100A., &c., &c.—To Richard Baron of Collooney (Lord Coote, of Coote Hall), Ballyfermoyle, two east quarters of the cartron of Derreenferry; Dromard, one cartron; Drumboylan, Moy, and Drumlogue, half a cartron each; Drummahon, one cartron, 114A.; Moyagh, one quarter, 120A.; Drumilra, half a quarter, 115A.; Bracklin (part), Clonecarrow, Lisduff, Drumard, and Derryseery, six cartrons, 62A.; Ballyfermoyle West, two quarters; a cartron of Aghely; Knockecoghery and Tullaghneha, one cartron each; Cornemucklagh, one cartron, 186A.; Clegna, one quarter; Cloonetecaldry, Drumback, and Gloryes, one cartron each; Lisfarrellboy, &c., 7½ cartrons, 164A.; Killmacorrel, half a quarter, 20A.; the Island of Inchatyra, 9A.; Drumsallagh, one quarter, 54A.; part of Ballyfermoyle, north-east, two quarters, 96A.; Annaghinlangan, 435A.; Drumsallagh, one quarter, 63A., &c., &c.—To Charles (Coote), Earl of Mountrath, in Carrigeenbeg, half a quarter, 55A.—To Sir Oliver St. George, Knight and Baronet, one cartron, part of Crosna quarter, 310A.; Tullaleague, 19A.; Ardleagh, &c., 40A.; Ardkavil, 41A.; Ardglass, one quarter, 150A.; Moyher, one cartron, 60A.; Carroward, 14A.; Mullaghmore, one quarter, 80A.; Taunaghdrissoge, 21A.; Knockglass, &c., two quarters, 263A.; Legwoy, half a quarter, 58A.; Ardleagh, half a quarter, 54A.; Knockanima, Tawlagh, &c., one quarter, 121A.; Carroward, one quarter, 74A.; Mucknadille, half a quarter, 47A.; Toermore, half a quarter, 41A.; Toery-

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martin, half a quarter, 70A., &c., &c.—To John and Thomas Yeeden, Kinkellew, one quarter, 90A.; Clongownagh, half a quarter, 41A.; Derryra, half a quarter, 45A.; Bothe, 10A.; Liscomin, half a quarter, 45A.; Tonegan, half a quarter, 39A.; Cloneigh, half a quarter, 33A.; Trine Ballynahave, one quarter and one cartron, 82A.; Liscahil, &c., one quarter, 90A. &c., &c.—To John Lord Kingston, Carrowmore, one quarter, 79A.; Ardease, one quarter, 85A.; Ardlaghren, one quarter, 85A.; Clonebryne, one quarter and a half; Port-darragh and Knockolegin, one quarter and a half; Lillie and Erraronagh, 2 quarters, 121A.; Ballymullany and Aghacurragh, 4 quarters, 1008A.; Portnacranagh, Carrowrea, and Lurga, 3 quarters, 258A.; Callow, 4 quarters, 973A.; Granagh, Ardkeenagh, and Knockroe, 3 quarters, 719A.; Knockbrack and Longford, 2 quarters, 239A.; Cargin, one quarter, 81A.; Crevagh, one quarter, 124A.; Mullagh, half a quarter; Ellagh, ditto; Carrownegashel, one quarter, 248A.; Larragh, half a quarter, 55A.; Finnanagh, half a quarter, 64A.; Kinkellew, one quarter, 104A.; Smutternagh, 62A.; Lisgrehan, half a quarter, 33A.; Umer, half a quarter, 51A.; Ardconra, 87A.; Lismulkerne, 65A.; Loorety and Clonekill, one quarter, 49A.; Agherfingan, one quarter, 395A.; Tullyvaughan, Tullyboy, and Clogher, 4 quarters, 288A.; Corkfree, one quarter, 66A.; Tullynetam, one quarter, 98A.—To Chidley Coote, Corryard and Gortnecranagh, half a quarter, 51A.; Killogues and Carriglean, half a quarter, 36A.; in

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the two north quarters of Ballyfermoyle, 500A.; a moiety of ten cartrons, and one-sixth of a cartron, called Cultybooley, Derrydulagh, &c., 240A.; Drumore, 96A., &c., &c. This territory, then popularly known by the generic name of Oughter-Tyre, or, "the upper country," was, by a subsequent patent of 1685, erected into the manor of Coote Hall.—To Jeffery French, Tullyvaughan, two-thirds of a cartron, 17A.; Lurga, half a quarter, 41A.; Carrowbeg and Ardsallagh, one quarter, 10A.; a parcel in Carrowmore, 10A.; Ardkeene, 20A.; Lurga, 3 cartrons; Derrygarren, one cartron; Glories, one cartron; a parcel of Ballyfermoyle, 29A., &c., &c.—To George French. In Ballykeevigan, 2 quarters, 20A.; in Smutternagh, one quarter 46A.; Tullynaha in Glan, one cartron; Trincreagh, 34A., &c., &c.—To Theobald Butler. In Portnecranagh, one quarter; Carrowreagh, one quarter; and Lurga, one quarter, 9A.; Emlagh, Portnadarragh, Urrilaunagh, and Killeyday, one quarter each; Knockleydyan, half a quarter, 18A.; in Lurga, 3 cartrons; Derrygarrane, one quarter; Drumcomra in Glories, one cartron, &c., &c.—To Richard Butler, Lisfarrelboy, one cartron; Cooldayth, three cartrons; Knocknasmagh, 3 cartrons; Clonegonagh and Killeconnine, one quarter; Ardmore, one quarter; Cashelkellew, half a quarter; Knocknafushogue, one trine, 5A.; Carkfresh, one quarter, 20A., &c., &c.—To Robert King, Callow, 4 quarters, 44A.; Portnecranagh, one quarter; Lurga, one quarter, 30A.; Ardlareen, one quarter; Ar-

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dress, ditto; Urlare and Knockavally, 85A. Carrowgashell, Ellagh, and Mullogue, one quarter each; Creene and Cargine, one quarter, 51A.; Knockbrack and Longfort, one quarter each; in Carrick, 100A.; Agherfinnegan, one quarter, 3A.; Ballymullane and Aghacarra, 4 quarters; Ballykeevigan, 2 quarters; Carrowturkan, one quarter, 10A.; Derrytone, half a cartron, &c., &c.

In 1687, being the second year of the reign of King James the Second, the Sheriff of Roscommon was John Dillon, while the Lord Lieutenant of the county was Lord Dillon, and the Deputy Lieutenants were Patrick Plunket and John Dillon. On the 21st of March of this year, that monarch granted to Boyle a new charter, but which, in consequence of immediately succeeding events, has never since been acted upon. The king, by this instrument, appointed Bryan, son of Henry Mac Dermot, Burgomaster; and the following 19 Burgesses, viz.: Sir Robert King, Baronet; John King, Theobald Dillon, Roger Oge Mac Dermot, Oliver O'Gara, Edward Mulloy, Hugh Mac Dermot, Cornelius Mac Dermot, Thady O'Byrne, Thomas Mac Dermot, senior, Thomas Mac Dermot, junior, Esquires; Edmond French, Laurence Dowdal and Martin Lynch, merchants; John Conry and Daniel Kelly, gentlemen; Bryan Mac Dermott Roe; Edward Connor, shoemaker; and Henry Mac Dermot.

In reference to the civil wars that ensued, and their connexion with this locality, Captain M'Car-

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mick, in his "Further impartial Account of the Actions of the Inniskilling Men," inserts a letter, which he states was, about this time, received in Enniskillen, from Mr. John Delap, of Ballyshannon, to whom it was directed. It ran as follows:

"SIR,—The occasion of this trouble to you, is to tell you that we have undoubted and repeated advice, that many hundreds of men, foot and dragoons, are arming themselves in the Counties of Roscommon and Mayo, with an intent to fall upon our friends in Boyle and this county, and consequently pursue their design down towards you. We have, therefore, agreed unanimously to secure this town, and bring in the country people to our aid; but, before we stir in what we have said, there is a party of fifty or sixty to go hence, who are to join, in the County of Roscommon, with some more, to be commanded by Captain Coote, upon a very important design, which, if it please God may be effected, will be of great consequence to us all, and of no small disadvantage to our enemies; that, if possible, is to be done within two or three days. Now it is the desire of Captain Coote, that all, or as many of the Protestants as may unite, may gather into Ballyshannon and Donegal, where you may be in readiness, not only to secure yourselves against the blow that is designed to be given, but also to be in a condition to relieve us, if by the multitude we be oppressed. Matters are come to a great height in our neighbouring counties, there being no less than 24 captains in

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one barony in the County Mayo, therefore, as you tender your welfare, slight not this matter: communicate it, with all prudence, to Mr. Ffolliot, Mr. Whiteway, Lieutenant Smith, and Mr. Atkinson, and the rest of your friends. What else is done here you shall know it: we hope to have all done by Thursday, for we find time is not to be slipt. Lord Kingston and Captain Coote have come hither: it is their desire, that you should send an express immediately to Derry, to know if we may have any help of arms and ammunition from thence; for it is the only thing we lack, when, at the same time, our enemies are well stored. Pray desire your friends to tell, what quantity of arms we may expect, and the sorts, and how much ammunition, that we may immediately send for them. This design is not to be communicated to any but to those you are sure of. Lord Granard is now in the country, Lord Kingston went to him yesterday; and this night, or to-morrow morning, we expect to know how his pulse beats. We are told Derry is surrendered.

"*Sligo, Dec.* 27, 1688."

Harris, in his "History of King William," speaking of the state of this country at the close of the above year, says: "The Association for the County of Sligo, entered into on the 4th of January (old style), under the command of the Lord Kingston and Captain Chidley Coote, had a longer continuance, and was conducted with more military skill, than the north-eastern associations. These two com-

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manders, having formed the people into troops and companies, and furnished them with horses, arms, ammunition, and provisions, maintained several frontier garrisons..... Colonel Mac Donnel, being garrisoned at Abbey-Boyle, in the County Roscommon, a house of the Lord Kingston's, and not permitting any of the Protestants of that neighbourhood to pass, with their goods and provisions, towards Sligo, but ordering all such to be seized, Lord Kingston thought it requisite to write to him upon that subject, desiring him to suffer the Protestants to have a free passage to Sligo, as all the Papists had from thence to Boyle, Athlone, and other places, to their Irish friends, without any molestation from the garrison of Sligo; but, Colonel Mac Donnel, not submitting to this request, it was resolved, in a council held at Sligo, that Lord Kingston and Captain Chidley Coote should, with a party of horse and foot, march to Abbey-Boyle, and demand a free passage for the Protestants, which, upon their approach, the Colonel readily granted; yet he never performed his promise, though he was esteemed a man of the fairest reputation among the Irish in those parts. Upon the approach of Lord Kingston, Mac Donnel drew all his horse, foot and dragoons, within the walls of the house and gardens of Abbey-Boyle, though, with his old troops, and new-raised rapparees, he exceeded Lord Kingston's party, five to one(*a*)."

(*a*) Harris's "William the Third," p. 198.

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In the ensuing April (1689), M'Carmick, writing of the garrison in Enniskillen, says: "There came an express from Captain Ffolliott, commander of Ballyshannon, a town with a strong castle, twenty miles below us, standing likewise upon the side of Lough Earne, near the sea, that there was a considerable party of horse and foot, from Connaught, sat down before it; the enemy had summoned them to deliver the town and castle, which summons he sent to us, desiring speedy relief: Lieut.-Colonel Lloyd marched next morning, with a considerable party, both of horse and foot, to raise the siege. The enemy, hearing of our approach, drew off the greatest part of their strength, both horse and foot, to a place called Bellick, three miles nearer us, and there posted themselves very advantageously, there being but one narrow pass, by which they could be attacked, a bog running from the side of Lough Earne all the way to Bundouse, seven miles to the left hand, and not known to be passable in any place, save where the road led through it, close to the lough side; this the enemy had strongly barricaded, and, before their works, had broke down a bridge, and so raised the way, that it could not be passed. Colonel Lloyd, espying this, caused faggots to be cut immediately, for making the bog passable, and so drew up against the enemy, they making great huzzas, and inviting us to come on and fight them. Our stomachs were as good as theirs, if not better, for that trade; and, as we were advancing to force our

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way, God Almighty sent a man, from whence I know not, that offered to lead us safe through the bog, towards our left hand, and that our horse should not need to alight, nor to use their faggots.—He was as good as his word. When we had passed the bog, our advanced guard, led by Captain Acheson, endeavoured to get, if possible, the right flank of the enemy, so to prevent their escaping to the mountains; but they, espying it, and our body coming on, began to move orderly towards their right, as if they designed to prevent their being flanked; we, observing their motion, marched extremely hard, but, ere we could come within shot, the enemy's foot broke, and ran clear away to the mountains. The horse, which were upon the left of the foot, betwixt them and the lough, stood, while our horse were ready to charge them, then wheeled to the left, and so ran for it, without firing a shot. Our horse pursued seven miles, and, had not the night come on, I presume few of them had escaped. There was none that fought save one Fitzgerald, who, being overtaken on his flight by one Lieutenant Mulloy, of our party, fired his three shot briskly upon him, and had certainly killed him, had he wanted his armour; but when his shot was spent, they fought it with their swords, while some of our men came up, and took Fitzgerald prisoner. He was very much wounded, but, because of his courage, was carefully looked after, and brought to Enniskillen, and recovered. There were killed, in the pursuit, a hundred and ninety

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horse Our foot marched unto Ballyshannon, where they took about sixty prisoners, in the Fish Island and about it; knocking some others on the head that were left to continue the siege, they not knowing that their army was broke, while our men came upon them. We had the plunder of their camp, which was but beggarly; got several good serviceable horses, two small cannon, some good arms, and a small quantity of ammunition, and, having fully done what we went about, returned to Enniskillen. This was the first engagement, if it may be so called, that we had with the enemy, where we lost not one man, nor had any wounded, save Cornet King, that had a shot in the face, receiving a carbine from one of the Irish horse, after giving him quarters, but the horseman was immediately killed by one James King, a friend of the Cornet's, who soon recovered of his wound"(*a*). Within the next month was held the Parliament of Dublin, in the presence of King James the Second, when the following persons of this vicinity were attainted: John Drury, of Callow; Thomas Lloyd, of Croghan; Toby Mulloy, of Knockvicar; John Yeedon, of Boyle; Henry Yeedon, of Boyle; Francis King, of Ballindoon; Charles Dodd, of Tyrerill; Robert Ffolliot, of Drumdoney; Anthony Colley, of Moygara, &c.

"In September (1689), Duke Schomberg commands Colonel Woolsely, with all the horse belong-

(*a*) M'Carmick's "Inniskillingmen," pp. 40–1.

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ing to Enniskillen (Colonel Lloyd's troop excepted), Colonel Wynne's dragoons; Colonel Lloyd's and Colonel Tiffany's regiments of foot, immediately, to march to Dundalk camp, which they did, Colonel Woolsely first sending Colonel Lloyd, with his own troop of horse and six companies of foot of Colonel Hamilton's regiment, with some of Sir Arthur Cunningham's dragoons, to Sligo, for the defence of that place. Colonel Lloyd had not been long there, ere he received intelligence that the enemy were drawing to a body at Abbey-Boyle, a town belonging to my Lord Kingston, and, as it was his natural inclination never to be idle, he resolves to give them a visit, and, if possible, to prevent them getting to a head; he to that purpose marched what force he had from Sligo by Killowney (Colooney), so to Ballinafad, and over the Curlews, with as much privacy as he could, marching in the night, and falling down near Boyle in the morning early, where he thought to have surprized the town, but, in the place of that, he found the enemy, both horse and foot, drawn up in very good order to receive him, and far exceeding his number. He was not long ere he, with his accustomed fortitude, engaged them, and as soon put them to the rout, killing about 300 of their foot, and several of their horse, who he had the pursuit of near to Roscommon. Upon this victory he marched immediately to James-town, where the enemy had a garrison, and took it, together with Colonel Mac Donnel's house, a strong house called Drumsna, near to

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Jamestown. Here he got a vast prey of black cattle, sheep, and horses, with all the growth of the country. Colonel Lloyd upon this sends an express, and acquaints Duke Schomberg of his gaining so great a part of the country, and desires to know what to do, he having no men to garrison those places he had taken. The Duke sends him a positive command not to lose one foot of ground, and that he should be soon supplied with what he wanted. Colonel Lloyd, in obedience to the Duke's command, was forced to divide his men to garrison Jamestown, Drumsna, and Abbey-Boyle, going himself to Sligo, sending several times to Enniskillen for ammunition, but none being sent him, and the Duke not sending supplies early enough, our men, a while after (being divided in so small parties, and not capable of getting together), were beaten from all these places by the Irish: our loss of men, I confess, was not great, yet we lost one Lieutenant Cashcart, and Captain Wiere, commonly called Laird Wiere, a valiant, brave fellow, and indeed his loss was much lamented, for we had not a more forward man amongst us(*a*)."

The manner in which the express account, above alluded to, was received in Dundalk, is thus narrated in the London Gazette of October 7th, 1689:

"*From the camp at Dundalk, September 28th.*

"This day arrived here an express from Enniskil-

(*a*) M'Carmick's "Inniskilling Men," pp. 67, 68.

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len, with an account, that the forces which were left there, hearing that three regiments of the Irish army, with a great number of armed rabble, were come to Boyle, with a design to attack Sligo, they immediately marched thither, and had not been long there when they understood that the rebels moved towards them, whereupon they marched out to meet them. The Irish fired at a great distance, but our men stayed till they came within pistol shot, and then gave them so warm a charge that they killed a great many of them, and put the rest to flight. Colonel Lloyd, who commanded our men, left his foot to pursue the rebels, and, taking a little compass about with his horse, got into Boyle at one end of the town, just as the rebels entered at the other, beat them out again, and pursued them seven miles. Of the rebels 500 were killed upon the place, and 3 colonels, with 40 officers, and about 200 soldiers taken prisoners; and on our side we had, in this brave and remarkable action, but 20 men killed and wounded; our men took, likewise, and carried back with them, 10,000 head of cattle. We had about 4 troops of horse, 5 of dragoons, and about 200 foot, and the Irish were 5,000. For this happy success his Grace had ordered all the cannon to be fired round the camp. The forces from Scotland are daily expected from Carlingford. Amongst the prisoners taken," adds the same Gazette, as news from Chester, September 30th, "are Colonel O'Kelly, who commanded the party; Colonel Dillon, Colonel Burke, and 40 other com-

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mission officers. The news of this extraordinary success being brought to his Grace, the Duke of Schomberg, he caused all the cannon round his camp to be fired, and the like was done from the men of war, and the rest of the ships in the bay of Carlingford. This day we hear, by a person who came from the camp on Sunday last, that the forces from Scotland arrived that day at Carlingford, and that the Irish army was decamped." Story says, in his narrative of what occurred at Dundalk, that "upon the news, the General ordered all the Enniskillen horse and foot that were in the camp to draw out, and complimented them so far as to ride all along their line, with his hat off; then he ordered the Dutch guards and the Enniskillen foot to draw into a line, to the right of our works, at the west end of the town, where they made three running fires, which were answered by the Enniskillen horse from their camp, and by the great guns upon our works, as also from our ships that lay in the mouth of the river. The enemy admired what all this rejoicing should be for, and were in some trouble, at first suspecting we had got some extraordinary news from England, or that there was an army landed in the west of Ireland (which they themselves must have known before us(*a*)). This action was further commemorated at the time, by fashioning a manufacture of drinking glasses, in the shape of chalices, with long pedestals,

(*a*) Impartial Review, p. 25.

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and cut, round the bowl, with the words, "The Battle of the Boyle, the twentieth of September, 1689"(*a*).

Mac Carmick, it is to be observed, in his "Account," before cited, suggests the death of Captain Weir, then popularly called Laird Weir, in this engagement of September, but it appears he recovered from his wounds, and, with the military ardour and perseverance natural to himself and his countrymen, this descendant of the ancient family of the Weirs, of Craig-Head(*b*), being then of the Enniskillen

(*a*) One of this mould is preserved at Mr. Mulloy's of Oakport.

(*b*) The intimate and gallant connexion of the above Alexander Weir, with the early annals of the Revolution in this vicinity, the striking circumstance of his son Robert, then a boy, being at the camp, and on the field when his father fell, the occurrence of that parent's burial within the Abbey of Boyle, and the monument commemorative of his fate, still traceable in the ascent of the Curlews' mountain, seem to justify the insertion here of a longer notice of his family than would, perhaps, under even these circumstances, be afforded for a clan of less ancient origin, or less historic interest.—In the twelfth century, numerous refugees from Flanders, settled on the banks of the Clyde. One of these, the progenitor of this family, was Balted de Vere (I), who lived in the reign of Malcolm the Fourth of Scotland, and witnessed a charter of his successor, King William. This Balted had two sons, Walter and David. Walter (II.) was a great benefactor to that Abbey of Kelso, whose magnificent remains are of those that yet consecrate the banks of the Tweed. His son and heir Radulph, styled De Ver (III.), was a distinguished warrior; and when William the Lion, King of Scots, in 1174, fixed his camp at Alnwick, he was amongst the monarch's adherents, and there,

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dragoons, was selected, at his own request, to repair, with two troops of cavalry, and a company of foot, to

on the signal victory obtained by the famous Justiciary Glanville, over the Scots, Radulph was, with his Sovereign, taken prisoner (*Chalm. Caled.* vol. iii. p. 741). On his subsequent release from captivity, and on the dearly-purchased restoration of the Lion King, Radulph appears as one of the witnesses of his Royal grant to the Abbey of Cambuskenneth, as was his eldest son, Thomas de Ver (IV.), to a charter of Royal endowment to Kelso, in 1266. His eldest son was Richard de Ver (V.), who was succeeded by another Thomas (VI.), one of the attesting witnesses to a donation to Kelso, in 1316. This Thomas is the first recorded proprietor of Blackwood, in Lanarkshire, of which, however, the Brotherhood of Kelso were, in Scotch parlance, superiors. He died in the reign of Edward Bruce, leaving a son, Buan "Were" (VII.), who, with that spelling of the family name, witnessed a charter from David the Second, King of Scotland, to the Monastery of Kilwynnin. He died in the reign of Robert the Second, leaving a son, Rotaldus Were (VIII.) who succeeded him, and as heir to his grandfather, Thomas, obtained a confirmatory grant from the Abbot of Kelso, of the lands of Blackwood and Dermondstone, described as previously enjoyed by his ancestor, and situated in the parish and barony of Lismahago, bearing date in the year 1404. He died in the time of James the Second of Scotland, and was succeeded by his heir, Thomas Were (IX.) of Blackwood, the father of Robert Were (X.), who obtained, in 1479, from Robert, Abbot of Kelso, a charter of confirmation of various lands, described as within the Lordship of Blackwood, and Sheriffdom of Lanerk. He died soon after, leaving a son, Thomas "Weir" (XI.) (so is the spelling then varied), likewise styled of Blackwood, and who had a similar confirmation, or renewal charter, of his estates, from the Abbot of Kelso, in 1526. He had also the patronage of St. Mary's Church of Lismahago, and dying, left a son, James Weir (XII.), of Blackwood, who, in 1531, obtained an enlarged grant of his inheritance from the Abbot of Kelso, to hold thence-

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Boyle-Abbey, "where they had some skirmishing, after which the enemy disappeared; but Captain

forth in tail male; besides which he appears, on record, proprietor of the lands of Powneill, in Lanarkshire. In 1585, he was one of "the nobles and gentry, received back to the favour of James the Sixth of Scotland (afterwards James the First of England), and was thereupon released from penalties of confiscation incurred by him (*Acts Parl. Scot.*) Down to this James, the twelfth in lineal descent from Balted De Vere, the pedigree is strictly proveable by the charters and grants herein-before alluded to. James died in 1595, but, having previously married Euphemia, of the illustrious house of Hamilton, who joined him in precepts of enfeoffment, and deeds of alienation, of record, he left issue by her several sons, through whom respective branches of this family diverged. James Weir, the eldest son and heir of said James and Euphemia, on the death of his father, inherited Blackwood, and, marrying a daughter of Lord Dalhousie, left issue by her, George, of Blackwood, who married his own first cousin, Margaret, the daughter of William Weir, of Stanebyres; the only issue of which marriage having been a daughter, the male line of Weir, in this the elder channel, became extinct, although the descendants of this female by her husband, William Lowrie, continued to bear the arms and surname of Weir, being, by settlement, bound so to do; and when, again, the line of the Lowrie-Weirs closed in a female, Catherine, who married, in 1733, the Honourable Charles Hope, of Craggie Hall, second son of Charles Hope, the first Earl of Hopetown, their issue also took the family name, styling themselves Hope-Weirs. This line of descent is proveable by the family conveyances, of record in Scotland.—William Weir, styled of Stanebyres, the second son of James the elder, by Euphemia Hamilton, left a son, George, who was succeeded by his son William, who, with the style of "Sir William Weir of Stanebyres," was one of the Commissioners of War for Lanarkshire, in 1647. His heir, James Weir, was, in 1678, included in the Convention of the States for raising a supply off Lanarkshire, in aid

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Weir, with his troop, and another commanded by Captain Mayo, was ordered to remain at Boyle to

of the Government, as he appears to have also been, in 1696, by the description of "Major James Weir of Kirkfield." He was succeeded by William Weir, who, as his heir, was seised of Stanebyres, in 1710; after which all trace of the family through this, the second branch, is likewise lost. Of the third son of James Weir the elder, viz., Robert Weir, who was destined to continue the male line, mention shall be made hereafter. A fourth son, John Weir, of Powneill, was murdered in a family feud in 1592, three years before the date of his father's death; he left William, his heir, who was succeeded, in 1632, by Walter Weir. There were also Weirs of Cloburne, and Weirs of Newton, who appear to have been junior branches of this family, and flourishing within Lanarkshire. Of Henry Weir, in the former line, there is a remarkable notice in *Balfour's Works*, vol. ii. p. 49, and the *Acts of Parliament of Scotland* furnish interesting particulars of his male descendants until their extinction about the year 1698, when the estate of Cloburne passed, by marriage of the heiress, to Sir Andrew Kennedy (*Hamilton's Lanarkshire*, p. 64).—The above notices of these now extinct lines of James Weir (XII.), are proved by inquisitions in the "Record of Retours of Scotland." To return to Robert Weir (XIII.), styled of Craig-Head, a locality situated on the River Clyde, and more anciently called Fair-holm (*Inquisition of Lanark*): an ancient pedigree, in the possession of the representative of this existing line, says, that this Robert was married to a sister of Sir David Lindsay, by whom he had a son, Alexander Weir, and that, having offended the Duke of Hamilton, Viceroy of Scotland, under King James the First, of England, he sold or assigned his estate, about the year 1610, and emigrated to the north of Ireland, soon after which Craig-Head is undoubtedly recorded as the property of James, Duke of Hamilton (*Inquis. of Lanark*, 1625). This removal was further induced by the concurrence of the plantation of Ulster, on which occasion, Sir Robert Hamilton, a connexion of his namesake of

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reconnoitre, and give information by daily expresses to Colonel Lloyd (then commanding at Sligo), of

Craig-Head, became the first patentee of Derreenavogher, 1500A. plantation measure, in the County Fermanagh, to hold on the prescribed statutable conditions. Within this district Robert Weir (XIII.) obtained, by mesne assignment, a settlement, and ultimately the higher title of a Royal patent, for the tates of Dromeragh, Dromore, Managhin, Tullagarine, *alias* Tullymargee, &c. described as lying within the middle proportion of Derreenavogher. On that part called Managhin, Robert resided until his death, which occurred in 1633. His son, Alexander (XIV.), died in the previous year, but having, in 1614, married Anne, daughter of Sir John Dunbar, of Derrygonelly, in said County of Fermanagh, he left issue two sons, John and Alexander Weir, and three daughters. On the breaking out of the civil war, in 1641, the widow, Anne, with her orphans, suffered severely from the adherents of O'Neill, in the north, until, after seeking a temporary shelter in the old Friary of Lisgoole, on the south side of Lough Erne, and sustaining there the perfidious consequences of a violated capitulation, Mrs. Weir was suffered to escape to Enniskillen, with but one son, the above Alexander Weir (XV.), then aged nine years, and his sister Jane, alone saved from massacre; there they remained, until the insurgents were driven out of Fermanagh. When Munroe, in his efforts to enlist the well-affected royalists of Ireland, came to Enniskillen, Alexander Weir engaged as a volunteer with him in the King's army, immediately after which, in 1651, he fought and was wounded, at the battle of Worcester, whereupon he remained amongst his relatives in Scotland, until, on the Settlement of Ireland, he was, in 1666, adjudicated compensation for his conduct as one of the commissioned officers "who had served His Majesty, or his Royal Father of blessed memory;" he thereupon returned to his former residence in the County Fermanagh, where he resided until the breaking out of the Revolution. In November, 1688, James, the son of Sir John Hume, of Castle-Hume, jointly with this Alex-

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the movements of King James's army, under the command of Lieutenant-General Sarsfield, consisting of

ander Weir, raised an independent troop of horse, in support of the Prince of Orange, but, Mr. Hume having died before any action occurred, the command devolved upon Alexander Weir, who, in June, 1689, routed a party of King James's adherents, at Ballyshannon, and, on his return to the head quarters in Enniskillen, being ordered out to intercept a large body of the enemy coming, under the command of Lord Mountcashel, to assault that town, he, with Captain Martin Armstrong, achieved a memorable victory at Newtown-Butler. Contemporaneous notices detail many circumstances of Captain Weir's bravery, and military address, on that day. It was immediately after this, that he was ordered to garrison Boyle and report of Sarsfield's movements; his information accordingly led to the engagement mentioned in the text, wherein he was mortally wounded, carried down into Boyle, and there dying, was buried within the Abbey, while the Lord Kingston caused that monument to be erected upon the spot where he fell, which is still traceable at Boherboy, as before alluded to, *ante*, pp. 83–4. This gallant officer left issue by his wife, Sarah Goodwin, two sons, Robert and John; the latter died young: the former, Robert Weir (XVI.), was born in 1676, and, though but thirteen years of age at the time of the above engagement, was enrolled in his father's troop, and, upon his death, transferred to that of Brigadier Wolseley. He afterwards fought and was wounded at the Battle of the Boyne; but, constant in his allegiance to King William, he carried arms in his cause at Athlone, Aghrim, and Limerick, before which last place he remained until the capitulation, when, his regiment having been reduced, he was fain to do service in that of Sir Henry Bellasis as a volunteer. Being subsequently restored to a portion of his family's estates, he married Anne, daughter of Captain Christopher Carleton, a distinguished officer of Cumberland ancestry; and dying in 1743, left issue by her, Alexander Weir, his eldest son, and several younger children, from one of whom has descended a branch of the Weirs that set-

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12,000; Captain Weir informed him (Colonel Lloyd) that, unless he was reinforced, it would be out of his

tled in the County Sligo early in the eighteenth century, and is now represented there by William Weir, Esq., of Lakeview, immediately in the vicinity of Boyle. Alexander Weir (XVII.), the eldest son of Robert, was a captain in the Fermanagh Militia, in 1745, when he intermarried with Barbara, daughter of John Crozier, of Magheradunbar, County Fermanagh, by whom he had issue two sons, Robert and John, and one daughter, Barbara. John, the younger son, when a Lieutenant in the 43rd Regiment of Foot, was nominated one of the esquires to Sir Guy Carleton, upon his installation to the Knighthood of the Bath, in 1779, and was described in the patent of this appointment as second son of Alexander Weir, of Managhin, in the County of Fermanagh, while the particulars of his descent and lineage (as herein mentioned) were expressly acknowledged thereby, with the certified sanction of Garter and Clarencieux Kings-at-Arms, and an exemplification of armorials. He afterwards served in the American war under Lord Cornwallis, where having lost his leg, he died a captain in the 41st Regiment of Invalids, in 1811. He had married twice, but left no issue. His sister, Barbara, intermarried with John Johnson of Brook-hill, County Leitrim, whe died leaving issue one son and two daughters. Robert Weir (XVIII.), the eldest son of Alexander and Barbara, was a magistrate and Deputy-Governor of the County Fermanagh, and also served the office of its High Sheriff. He married Mary, daughter of Thomas Rynd, of Ballywhillin, in that county, and died in 1818, leaving John Weir (XIX.), his only surviving son and heir, who, having intermarried with Caroline Mary, daughter of John Chamley, of Belcamp, County Dublin, has issue by her several children, sons and daughters. Robert left also five daughters, the eldest of whom, Mary, was married to John Phillips, Esq., of Edstone Hall, Stratford-upon-Avon, lately deceased, and has issue, two daughters, the eldest married to Damer Galton, Esq., son and heir of Samuel Tertius Galton, Esq., of Duddeston-

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power to maintain his position, of which, however, Colonel Lloyd took no notice, and Captain Weir continued at Boyle, with the troops under his command, until the middle of November, when, on one evening of that month, he received intelligence, that General Sarsfield, with his army, were within less than four miles of Boyle, upon which Weir, at seven o'clock at night, marched towards Sligo. Two miles from Boyle the enemy had thrown up an entrenchment across the road, at the foot of a mountain called the Curlews', which was manned. Captain Weir attacked the entrenchment, and soon carried it, but was immediately afterwards mortally wounded by a random shot through the body, of which he died in 24 hours, in the 57th year of his age, and was interred in a vault in Abbey-Boyle, the burial-place of Lord Kingston's family. Said Lord Kingston ordered a monument to be erected, on the height opposite where the said Captain Weir was killed, to his memory, the remains of which monument are still extant." ("*Account of the Family of Weir*," MSS.)

In August, 1691, Sir Robert King, being at Boyle, wrote, in the following terms, in relation to this country, to the Honourable Colonel Caulfield, then commander-in-chief at Athlone: "We are here

House, Warwickshire, by Frances Anne Violetta Darwin, daughter of Doctor Erasmus Darwin, equally celebrated as a physician and a poet.

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making up our several troops of militia, pursuant to the Government's commands, and for the preservation of this side of the county (near to which lie 2,000 of O'Donnel's deserters), but we are in the greatest want of ammunition, having some fire-arms, but neither powder nor ball to use them, which makes me desire the favour of you to order out of the stores there, only half a barrel of powder, and the like proportion of musket-balls, in which you will oblige many, and Sir, your most humble servant,

"ROBERT KING."

On the 4th of September following, the same Sir Robert, communicating from Boyle with the Honourable Colonel Lloyd, then Governor of Athlone, says: "SIR,—By a letter which the High Sheriff's coroner sent him, I see your care of this country, and the desire you have to preserve it, which I cannot propose a shorter way of doing than what you say, of sending an engineer, who can be a judge of the usefulness of some place of strength, of which it has yet none, and the hank it will be on all the enemies round about it. Boyle was always thought a place so convenient for keeping the great pass over the Curlews, that it never wanted a part of the army to guard it; and by order of my Lord of Ormonde, when Lord Lieutenant, an order of council was issued for building a fort near it, though the work was rather begun than finished, as your engineer, whom I wish here now, will find when he comes. I was on Wednesday at our camp, near Colooney, six miles

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from Sligo, where Sir Albert Conyngham complained to me of his want of horse, to make the duty of the troops he had more easy, about which I have wrote to Captain Ormsby, that a supply may be sent out of our militia, but fear he cannot do it, ours being yet so ill provided. O'Donnel's men come in to him, but not so fast as, perhaps, he expected, or, I believe, will, as soon as they see our army set down to the siege, for we have yet many of them in the woods, on both sides of us, under the command of one Con O'Rourke, to whom, as I had this morning intelligence, a hundred joined him last night, as by the enclosed you may partly see. There is one Mac Sweeny has a party of about 100, well armed, in the same woods (Moygara), four miles from this; and, though their numbers are so great to the Sheriff's twenty men (all that he has here), and our yet unsettled militia, they have not yet ventured on us, nor durst, could you favour us with a company of your men. I could give you a better account of things, from time to time, were there a post settled here, as used to be, which a line from you to the Government would procure." On the same day Toby, or Theobald, Mulloy, the Sheriff of the County Roscommon, above alluded to, also wrote to Colonel Lloyd as follows:—"HONOURABLE SIR,—I find by my colonel, that you have sent a party towards Lough Glyn, with which, with the help of God, I will join part of my men, that be at Castle-Plunket to-morrow or next day at farthest. I am by the Go-

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vernment commanded here (Boyle), with twenty of my men, which is a very inconsiderable party for so great a post, considering our enemies are so great in several numbers very near us. They are those, or most of those, that deserted O'Donnel. One Conell O'Rourke, one of the deserters from O'Donnel, is now erecting a garrison at a place called Moygara, within four miles of this place. If you could spare us a foot company here, and an engineer to put the place in a way of defence, which is easy to be done, it would be the only safety of all this county, for it is a great pass. Sir Robert King gives you his humble services, and, if you be pleased to give a company to our wishes, he would be glad it was Captain Allen that should be the officer. The place will be very good quarters for O'Donnel, and the part of his men that has not deserted him; and Sir Albert Conyngham's regiment are now encamped near Sligo. The number of O'Donnel's men I cannot tell you, for they are not all come in to him as yet."

On the following day H. Gorges intimated to the same Colonel Lloyd, "We have this morning been attacked at Kiloony (Colooney) by a strong party of firelocks, and being, unfortunately, taken at a great disadvantage, for the morning was so great a fog that they were amongst our tents before we were any way prepared, and it being a country full of ditches and bogs, our men, when mounted, could do no good, so that we were forced to retreat to this place, and leave all our tents and all our baggage be-

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hind, and, which was our greatest loss, our colonel, poor Sir Albert, as he was mounting, his horse was unruly and broke away, and, in spite of what we could do, was made prisoner, and carried off; we are in an ill case, as you can imagine, for our men have not a tent or cloak amongst them, or anything but what is on our backs, and here we are, surrounded, and know not what to do till we hear from you; pray send us Sir Harry's orders quickly, for we cannot continue in this condition, nor be able to take the field this year, having neither tents nor cloaks for our men, and several other accoutrements are lost; therefore, if we be not sent somewhere to quarter, before bad weather comes in, we shall all be ruined. O'Donnel is with us, and escaped the narrowest that ever man did from being taken, and, if they had got him, he had presently been hanged. If you can presently come to us it would be very convenient. I am, dear Colonel," &c.

On the 10th of the same month Lord Granard, who had marched from Athlone to relieve Boyle, wrote thence to Baron de Ginkle, the commander-in-chief, at Limerick: "May it please your Excellency, by the Lords Justices' appointment, I met about 1500 of the Northern and Dublin Militia, in Athlone, whom I conducted to this place. Their commands is, with the assistance of Colonel Michelburn, who is not yet joined me, to endeavour the reduction of Sligo. I thought it my duty to acquaint your Excellency in what posture I find the enemy there,

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who, under pretence of the late cessation, have stored themselves with a vast deal of corn and cattle, and are grown confident by the little success they had, in surprising and killing Sir Albert Conyngham. Their number, to the best of my information, within the fort of Sligo, consists of 2,000 men. I have sent O'Donnel, who pretends a great deal of zeal to serve your Excellency, forthwith, to invest Ballymote, a place possessed by the enemy, whither I intend to march to-morrow, although the arguments I have to persuade them to surrender, is one 12 pounder, and two small field-pieces, which, although it may be enough for that place, would be too little against Sligo. I have seen a letter from Sarsfield to an Irish gentleman here, that he expects daily supplies from France, and assures him, our fleet before Limerick will be surprised. Although I neither believe nor fear it, yet I thought it my duty to acquaint your Lordship with what I hear of that kind," &c. It appears from a subsequent letter, in the Collection of Manuscripts, in Trinity College, from which the foregoing original letters have been here copied, that Sligo surrendered to this Lord Granard in six days after the date of the above.

In 1693, Robert, the second Lord Kingston (nephew of Sir Robert King, then of Boyle), conveyed to trustees the castle, manor, and lands of Newcastle, two ploughlands in Clongibbon, and part of the manor of Mitchelstown, in the Counties of Tipperary and Cork, for building, endowing, and establishing

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for ever, a College in or near the borough of Boyle, to be called by the name of Kingston College. The trustees to stand seised of the premises, after they were secured by Act of Parliament, or other legal ways, to the intent that a College, or free school, should be founded and established under a master and usher, with a chapel, and apartments for the master, usher, and chaplain; and with also an Alms'-house for the reception of 20 poor widows; the school to be appropriated for educating in English, Latin, and Greek, such boys, born of parents living in the town or barony of Boyle, as should be approved of for admittance by the trustees, their heirs and successors, or the major part of them, in writing under their hands and seals (Sir Robert King and his heir to be always one). The deed of endowment provided, that, after the erection of the College, and the allocation of £120, yearly, to the master and usher, and of £20 to the chaplain, £400 *per annum* should be appropriated for the maintenance of 20 poor widows of deceased ministers or curates, within the suffragan sees of the province of Tuam, &c. In 1698, the above Sir Robert, by his will, further directed, that a free school should be settled in the town of Boyle, with £50 per annum to the master, for which annuity, and maintaining the school, he bequeathed to his executors all his impropriate tithes in the Counties of Roscommon and Sligo, or elsewhere, to be disposed of, either to the use of such school or schoolmaster, or to the use of his eldest son's chap-

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lain, or to the poor of Boyle, as his said executor should, from time to time, direct. But none of these grants have had operation, and, it would seem, they were designed without power to legalize such subtraction from the inheritance.

Amongst the Commissioners, to whom the assessment and receipt of the poll-tax off the County of Roscommon, for the service of the State, was intrusted, in 1695, 1697, and 1698, were Sir Robert King, Sir Edward Crofton, and Sir Arthur Cole, baronets; Sir Oliver St. George, knight and baronet; John King, John French, Henry Dodwell, George Crofton, Toby Mulloy, &c. &c. The total amount assessed in this barony, in the first year, was £295 7*s.* 7*d.*

The chief claims entered and prosecuted at Chichester House, in 1700, as attaching to forfeited estates within this part of the old barony, were No. 1034, in which Arthur French, in right of his wife, claimed an estate in fee, by marriage articles of 1676, in the castle and quarter of Canbo, and several other lands in the Counties of Sligo and Roscommon; and No. 2355, whereby Richard Lloyd, Esq., claimed an estate in fee, as heir-at-law to his eldest brother, Thomas Lloyd, who was seised by patent of the 26th of October, 1666, in Enagh, one quarter, 192 A.; Dromyns, *alias* Killappogue, Bunreagh, and ten acres, part thereof, held sometime by one Iriel Farrel, " who pretended a right thereto."—Soon after which the trustees, in whom these forfeited es-

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tates were vested, conveyed, according to the Statute 11 William III., the rectories impropriate, advowsons of vicarages, and other profits of (*inter alia*) Ardcarne, Emblagh, &c., forfeited in fee by the attainder of Lord Bophin and Viscount Galway, to be held in trust for the perpetual augmentation of their respective vicarages(*a*). In 1717, the Charter school was erected in Boyle, for 32 boys, as was another, about the same time, at Estersnow. Alemande, writing on the monastic state of Ireland at this period, says, "there are Catholic Abbots of Boyle, but they live incognito when they are in Ireland."

In 1729, Boyle was but a two-day post, and so continued until 1760, in which latter year no stage-coach approached this town nearer than to Athlone at south, or Cavan at north, nor was it until 1788, that coaches were started from Dublin to Granard, Longford, Leitrim, and Boyle, respectively; the last, while it ran, performed the journey in two days, but was soon discontinued. In 1770 the town became a three-day, and in 1798, a six-day post.

In 1765, the site of the parochial church was, by order of council, removed from Isselyn to Boyle; and in 1774, the cemetery of the latter received its first mortal offering, the Reverend John Byrne, Vicar of Kilcorkey, having been interred there.

On the Union, Robert Lord Erris, as executor of

(*a*) Patent Roll in Chancery.

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Robert, then late Earl of Kingston, claimed and received £15,000 as his compensation for the abolition of the Borough of Boyle. A census of the population, taken at this time, reports the total number of houses in Boyle as 293, of which 74 were assessed in £133 for the window-tax, and the remaining 219 exempted; while 63 were assessed to hearth-money in £55, and 230 exempted therefrom. In 1801, the late Board of First Fruits granted £50 towards purchasing a glebe in Boyle; and £100 towards building a glebe-house there; and, in 1802, an episcopal union was formed, by which the vicarage of Boyle was included, with seven others, in one benefice, the patronage of which was in the Diocesan. That arrangement has, however, been recently altered, and the existing union of Boyle with Kilnamanagh and Ahanagh established, as before alluded to.

In 1829, Robert Knott, then of Boyle, bequeathed £200 in trust, the yearly interest thereof, at the rate of £5 per cent., to be applied in the purchase of blankets for distribution, before Christmas, to such poor families, in the town of Boyle, as Lord Lorton and his heirs, and the successive vicars of Boyle, might select.

It only remains here to take the first opportunity, that the chronological arrangement of this section admits, to correct, according to information but very recently received, the statistics of the parish of Tumna, of which it was said (*ante*, p. 117), that "there is no church therein:" and certainly there is none

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on the ancient site to attract local observation; a plain, but neat, structure, in the Gothic style, and capable of accommodating upwards of 200 persons, has, however, been erected on the townland of Lustia, near Battle-bridge, at a considerable distance from the old site, and on the opposite side of the there wide river of Boyle. The funds, on which this structure was erected, were exclusively appropriated by the late Lady Rosse, and its consecration took place in September, 1839. Close to it is a glebe-house, to the erection of which the Bishop of Kilmore contributed £200, Lord Lorton £100, Mr. Barton £180, and Mr. Peyton £20. Attached to this is a glebe of 13 acres, subject to £12 yearly rent. It may be added, that there are two schools maintained in this parish by the Church Education Society, in which about 100 children are stated to be educated; and, in reference to the two fairs before mentioned (*ante*, p. 118), as held at Cootehall, though licensed by patent, and still noted in the almanacks, they have been of late years discontinued.

END OF VOLUME I.

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